

## THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

**Thursday, the 5th February 1925.**

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Diwan Bahadur L. D. SWAMIKANNU PILLAI AVARGAL, C.I.E., I.S.O.) in the chair.

### I

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924—

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

### STARRED QUESTIONS.

#### Depressed Classes.

*Assignment of lands to depressed classes, etc.*

\*105 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to call for and lay on the table—

(a) a districtwar and talukwar statement of cultivable waste lands assigned to

- (i) depressed and backward classes, and
- (ii) ex-war service men; and

(b) the total area of cultivable waste lands still available for assignment to

- (i) ex-war service men,
- (ii) depressed and backward classes, and
- (iii) others?

A.—(a) (i) & (b) (ii) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to Appendix IV of G.O. No. 3348, Law (General), dated 27th November 1924, placed on Editors' Table, which contains figures by districts. Figures by taluks are not available.

(a) (ii) & (b) (i) & (iii) The Government have no information, -

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**Political.***The stipend of Mr. Abdul Lateef Farookhi, a Carnatic stipendiary.*

\* 106 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the statement of Mr. Abdul Lateef Farookhi, a Carnatic stipendiary, regarding the circumstances under which his stipend has been withheld by him (vide *Hindu* of the 25th November 1924, page 3);

(b) whether the facts stated therein are correct; and

(c) whether the Government will now reconsider the matter and allow the stipend?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The statements so far as they relate to matters within the cognizance of the Government are generally correct so far as they go.

(c) The Government find nothing in the communication to the newspapers which would suggest a reconsideration of the orders already in force.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“Sir, I am speaking from memory and the hon. the Home Member will please correct me if I am wrong. I believe Mr. Farookhi, in his letter to the *Hindu*, stated that he had taken no part in any of the activities directed against the authority of the Government. In view of that statement which is said to be generally correct by the Government, may I ask the reason why they will not reconsider the orders passed already?”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—“I have read the letter referred to by my hon. Friend but I do not find any statement to the effect that he did not take any part in any activity directed against the authority of the Government. The hon. Member stated that the Government agreed that the facts as stated in the letter were correct. The answer of the Government is that ‘the statements so far as they relate to matters within the cognizance of the Government are generally correct so far as they go.’ I have been advisedly careful in my statement. As matters stand we can find nothing in the letter to alter the position we took up on the resolution proposing the restoration of the pension which was withdrawn after full discussion a month or two ago.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“May I have some idea of what Government expect of him, before they make up their minds on the question of revising the orders already passed? He has already stated in his letter that he did not take any part in any of the activities directed against the authority of the Government.”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—“Does the hon. Member suggest that a letter written to a newspaper in Madras is an indication on which Government should be prepared to act? If he has any representations to make, let him do so to the Government. It cannot be suggested that, because he has written a letter to the newspaper, that should be regarded as *approaching* Government for a reconsideration of his case.”



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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I was going to say that it was irrelevant to refer to a statement made in the newspaper as equivalent to a statement made to Government. I would not allow that. I thought that some statement had been made to Government."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, may I know the Rule or Standing Order under which I should not refer to a statement made in the newspaper as a statement which Government can take cognizance of?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It has been ruled by my predecessor that statements made in newspapers should not be referred to in questions. The hon. Member may make that statement his own and ask questions on it."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"One submission, Sir. I was attending the meetings of the Legislative Assembly for a whole week. Questions of the type, 'whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a letter in the *Forward*, the *Pioneer* or the *Statesman*' are asked and they are fully answered by Government. Sir Frederick Whyte is the best Parliamentary authority in India to-day and he thinks that it is relevant to refer to such statements in the newspapers. There is no Rule or Standing Order which forbids such references. I submit that the President has no right to make an *obiter dictum* in the course of a ruling and tie our hands. I shall send the file of questions in the Assembly where such references occur and which are fully answered. You may take time to look into the matter and I shall also submit my observations. In the meanwhile to insist that we should prove every allegation made in the newspaper is really asking too much of us."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not say that hon. Members must prove every allegation made in the newspaper. I shall certainly consider the matter. We have been hitherto enforcing this rule in practice, but we shall certainly reconsider it. It is not the case that hon. Members are required to prove the statements made in newspaper. They are only required not to refer to statements made in the newspapers as such. If necessary they may make themselves responsible for such allegations and ask Government for any information."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know the exact phrase that fell from your lips? Is it that we should make ourselves responsible for such allegations and ask for information?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I have already said that I shall devote some time to consider the matter again and that will be the proper time to raise such questions."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"May I answer the particular point which my hon. Friend raised? I can best illustrate my position by referring to the debate on the subject which took place on the 19th November—

'Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB :—"May I take it that Government will restore the stipend if the gentleman says that he did not interfere with non-co-operation but he only took his legitimate share in the Khilafat movement which is a purely religious movement?"

'The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"If the gentleman in question approaches the proper authority, it is quite conceivable in the present circumstances that an assurance can be obtained from him which will satisfy the Government."

"My point at present is that he has not approached the proper authority. I do not think the House will consider it reasonable that because he has written a letter to a newspaper in Madras that should be treated as an approach to the proper authority."



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Mr. P. ANJANEYALU :—" May I know, Sir, whether this gentleman is to put in an apology to the Government or simply make a request to the Government? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" The expression I used is, ' approaches the proper authority ', and that gives the gentleman in question a good deal of latitude as to the line he should adopt "

### Civil Justice.

#### *Public Prosecutor of Cuddapah.*

\* 107 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government considered the case of any other persons or applicants to the post of Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader of Cuddapah district before they appointed the previous incumbent once again to the post ;

(b) whether the Government called upon the District Magistrate to report if any other proper person was not available for the post ;

(c) whether the Government were satisfied about the fitness of the present incumbent in every respect before he was appointed again to the post ;

(d) whether the District Superintendent of Police was consulted before the present incumbent was again appointed ; and

(e) whether it is not the declared policy of the Government to appoint other suitable proper persons, if available, instead of continuing the same person in office ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government have no information.

(e) The Government deprecate the constant renewal of the terms of Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" With reference to the answer to clause (e), how many renewals must there be for it to be considered constant and worthy of deprecation? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There is no definite rule. Generally after two terms Government deprecate renewal for a further term in the case of Public Prosecutors and Government Pleaders."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Has the District Superintendent of Police any share in the choice of the person? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Government ask for information and advice from the District Judge and the District Magistrate and nobody else."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Will the hon. the Law Member require that hereafter District Magistrates must not consult the District Superintendent of Police before making recommendations? "



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The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am afraid I cannot comply with that request. The District Magistrate is entitled to get advice and opinion from anybody, official or non-official. All that we are concerned is that we get our advice from the District Magistrate and the District Judge."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" The District Superintendent of Police ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There are no rules on this matter. I do not know what the practice has been. All that I can say is that, so far as the policy of the Government is concerned in this matter at present, the District Magistrate and the District Judge are the only two persons who are consulted and nobody else."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Formerly there was a rule, now abrogated, which asked the District Magistrates . . . "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There is no question of abrogation. Government's policy has been always to accept the recommendations of the Collector and the Judge whenever they agree. But when they are at variance with each other, then it is that the Government have to make up their minds and choose a person themselves."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" My impression is that there was an old Government Order which asked the District Magistrate to consult the District Superintendent of Police. But two or three years ago a notification was issued by Government deprecating that practice."

Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—" Will the hon. the Law Member say if he does not agree that such a practice is unwholesome if it exists to-day ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am afraid I am not prepared to answer that question."

*Members of the Legislative Council holding posts under Government.*

\* 108 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any members of this Council who hold posts of official or quasi-official character such as Official Receiver or Government Pleader or Public Prosecutor for which they are entitled to remuneration from Government or fees from the estates they manage in official or quasi-official character ; and

(b) whether such members give sufficient attention to their official or quasi-official functions while their time is taken for attending the Council ?

A.—(a) So far as the Government are aware there is only one member of the Legislative Council who holds a quasi-official position.

(b) The Government have no information to the contrary.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (a) may I know the name of the hon. Member referred to ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The hon. Member for South Kanara who is the Official Receiver for South Kanara."



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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" There are two members."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That hon. Member for South Kanara who is also the Official Receiver for South Kanara (laughter.)"

### Criminal Justice.

#### *Crimes in Cuddapah district.*

\* 109 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of crimes reported in the Cuddapah district to the Police, the number detected and charged by them and the number ending in conviction during the calendar years 1922 to 1924 ;

(b) the total number of P.R. cases before the magistrates during the years 1922-23 and 1924, the number that ended in discharge before them, the number committed to the Sessions Court and the number ending in conviction and acquittals there during the said three years ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the quality of police work in the district has deteriorated ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information other than what is contained in the published reports of statistics of criminal courts. The statistics for 1924 have not yet been received.

(c) The Government have formed no such opinion.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Notwithstanding the fact that crime is increasing in the Cuddapah district, may I know whether Government are not anxious to improve the quality of the work of the Police in the district ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The criminal propensities of the Ceded Districts, particularly the district of Cuddapah, are well known to hon. Members of this House, as well as to Government. Government is naturally anxious to see that the number of crimes diminishes. Next to Coimbatore, I think, I may say that Cuddapah has the largest number of crimes (laughter.)"

11-15 a.m. Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" Coimbatore is noted for murders, Sir, but not for other crimes. (laughter.)"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Coimbatore specialises in murders, and Cuddapah in bombs. But it is undoubted that the number of crimes is very distressing and Government from time to time impress upon the officers the necessity of keeping the investigation and detection of crimes up to the mark in the matter. And if hon. Members have any definite suggestions to make I shall be very glad to receive them and try to act upon them."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" One obvious suggestion is that if all the drink shops are closed, the number of murders will be very largely reduced."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I take it that though the question is addressed to me, it is meant for my hon. Colleague."



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**Irrigation.**

*Regulation of field irrigation.*

\* 110 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Public Works Department subordinates regulate field irrigation ;

(b) if so, whether they are guided by the applications for water ;

(c) whether there are any principles adopted in the disposal of applications and certification of irrigability for granting water-supply to lands ;

(d) if so, the tests which go to decide the irrigability or otherwise of lands for granting permits for permanent supply or for transferring the lands to permanent wet, or for refusing water-supply to the lands ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Executive Engineer, Madura division, does not mention the reason or justify his action for refusing supply of water to certain lands for the information of the party and the Revenue Department ; and

(f) if so, whether the Government will in future instruct the officer to specify the reasons for refusing supply of water ?

A.—(a) Under the larger irrigation systems the general distribution of water is controlled by the irrigation staff, but not the detailed distribution from field to field.

(b), (c) & (d) Where procedure by water application is in use, the applications are dealt with on the basis of sufficiency of supply, possibility of command and any special factors which would prejudicially affect permanent wet lands or other public interests. Subject to these necessary considerations it is the definite policy of Government to extend irrigation to the largest possible area.

(e) & (f) It is not possible to give an adequate reply without specific instances, but if it is considered that in any district water applications are unreasonably refused the Chief Engineer will enquire into the matter if specific instances are given.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Sir, with regard to clause (f) I am referring to the Madura district, and I want the reasons should be given so that the applicant may appeal to the higher authorities. Moreover, if the reasons are not given in the application it will be impossible to find out whether the application is based on proper grounds.”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I shall consider that matter, Sir.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ One of the factors taken into account in these matters is the sufficiency of water. May I know if, when an application for water is granted, the Government guarantee the supply of water ?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know if, as a result of these applications, there is really any appreciable change in the extent of land under cultivation either under first crop or under second crop ?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I want notice, Sir.”



[5th February 1925]

*Baling in the Periyar irrigation system.*

\* 111 Q.—MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether baling is a recognized method of irrigation in Periyar irrigation system; and

(b) if so, why permission for baling to certain lands and gardens under the channel or tank or on the margin of the waterspread of the tank is refused?

A.—(a) The Periyar sytem is designed to work with direct flow. Baling is therefore not a recognized factor in the system.

(b) Does not arise.

MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“With regard to clause (a), may I know whether baling is allowed in certain cases at least in the Periyar system?”

The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“It might have been allowed as a matter of practice, but it is not recognised that baling can be allowed as a question of right.”

MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“Is any special tax imposed in such cases?”

The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Notice, Sir.”

MR. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—“In answer to a question which I put last time, the Government admitted that there was supply of water in the Periyar system for further extension of irrigation up to 10,000 acres or so. Do not Government consider that baling is a more economical way of irrigation? What is the objection of the Government in allowing this baling?”

The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Baling is economical for the parties concerned perhaps, but it may give rise to very serious positions if by baling water is taken away elsewhere from quarters which are entitled to water.”

MR. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—“The extent may be limited by permission in each case, because we have experience of such conditions allowed in certain areas in channels and river margins where permission is given for baling; and the Engineering Department can very well support my view that baling is more economical as it restricts itself to a certain area, and the area which can be commanded by baling would not be of a very large extent. So why not baling be allowed? It would not in any way lessen the supply to the existing lands as it has already been admitted that there is enough supply for further extension of irrigation up to 10,000 acres.”

The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“That theory will be investigated by the Chief Engineer, Sir.”

*Agreement regarding Nilayur channel in Madura district.*

\* 112 Q.—MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether an agreement was entered into between the Government and the ryots with regard to Nilayur channel in Madura district;

(b) if so, whether the Government will lay on the table a copy of the agreement;



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(c) whether it is a fact that the Government have taken the control and regulation of water-supply of the channel, contrary to the terms of the agreement, if any;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Government have imposed a special tax called kudimaramat tax of As. 9-4 per acre for fasli 1333 in addition to the tax of As. 3 per acre already existing; if so, the reason for the same;

(e) how many years have elapsed since any maramat of the channel has taken place;

(f) whether it is a fact that there was no water-supply last year and the assessment for fasli 1333 was cancelled;

(g) whether the tank in Nilayur which used to be filled with the water of the channel gets the same supply now; and

(h) if not, whether the Government are considering the question of erecting a stone culvert with shutters at the head of the channel and connecting the channel with Sithanai?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Government have no information as to the agreement referred to.

(d) & (f) Government have no information.

(e) It is reported that estimates have been sanctioned for improvements and repairs and that the works are being completed.

(g) & (h) It is understood that there is trouble in getting supplies to the tail end of the channel. Improvements are under consideration.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—“With regard to clause (a) on the matter of agreement between Government and the ryots, will Government be pleased to call for the information?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“Yes.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—“With regard to clause (e), may I know the nature of the improvements and repairs which are being effected?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“When we call for the information we shall place a list of the works and their nature on the table.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—“With regard to clauses (g) and (h) it is stated that there is trouble in getting supplies to the tail end of channels. May I know the nature of the trouble?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“That water does not go there; that is all (laughter).”

*Drag line excavator in Godavari Western delta.*

\* 113 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) if the Government are aware that a drag line excavator was brought to work on the Yenamadurru drain in the Godavari Western delta two years ago and that it has not commenced to work;

(b) the cost of the excavator and its maintenance charges for the last two years;

(c) to what work its cost has been debited; and

(d) whether it was found that it cannot be used to work the drain?



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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The cost of the excavator amounted to Rs. 47,415. The cost was first debited to 'Stock' of the Public Works Stores division. When it was transferred to the work 'Improvements to Yenamadurru drain' the cost was debited to this work and when the excavator is returned to 'Stock' the work will be credited with the assessed current value of the plant. Figures regarding its maintenance charges for the last two years are not at present available.

(d) The excavator has been working, but the lifting limit is not sufficient for the highest lift in forming the bank. A gantry is therefore being fitted for use on these higher lifts.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With regard to the answer to clause (a) of this question, do I understand the Government to say that this drag excavator has not been working for the last two years?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"As will be noticed from (d), the excavator has been working but the lifting limit is not sufficient for the utmost work necessary and therefore what is called a gantry—that is, a kind of scaffolding which is placed there for the purpose of raising the machinery—is under construction."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I am asking whether this excavating machine which costs more than Rs. 47,000 was taken to the place and has done no work whatever."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That is not admitted. It is doing work."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Since what date it has begun to do work, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Clause (d) of the question is whether it was found that it cannot be used to work the drain, and the answer is that the excavator is working but that the lifting limit is not sufficient for the highest lift, etc. I am not an expert in these matters, but I am asking as a layman whether the working of that excavator has had any effect on the drain itself."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It has improved it, but not to the full extent possible."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"And when does the hon. the Law Member expect the fitting up of the gantry?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The gantry is being completed in the Public Works Workshop."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I wish that the gantry is finished as quickly as the hon. the Law Member finishes his answers. But I want to know whether it is fitted up in such a way as to enable the Government or the people to have the full benefit of the money spent upon this excavator?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"As I said, the gantry is under construction in the Public Works Workshop. As soon as it is ready, it will be fitted up, and the fullest benefit obtainable therefrom will presumably be got."



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*A committee to investigate into the causes of floods in the Presidency.*

\* 114 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the resolution of Mr. B. Das in the Legislative Assembly regarding appointment of a committee to investigate into causes of floods in India has been forwarded to the Local Government for inquiry and report; and

(b) whether the Government propose to appoint a committee for this purpose in this province?

A.—(a) The Government of India have forwarded to this Government a copy of the debate in the Legislative Assembly on the resolution referred to and the points raised in the debate have been noted.

(b) No.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo:—“Beyond noting the points raised in the debate, do the Government propose to enquire into the matter?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“The Government of India have frequently offered to advise us on very many points such as the relation of the floods to the railway embankments and so on, but it is generally considered by this Government that what is wanted is not so much advice as money.”

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo:—“Do the Government propose to send any report at all on the subject?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“Of course, yes.”

*Second crop zone in the Godavari Western delta.*

\* 115 Q.—Mr. M. SEETAYYA: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals for the formation of a second crop zone in the Godavari Western delta; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place their orders on the table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Final orders when passed will be placed on Editors' Table.

Mr. M. SEETAYYA (in Telugu):—“May I know whether the Government would be able to pass orders before the close of the current fasli?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“It is difficult to say, but we hope to expedite the orders.”

*Second crop zone in the Godavari Western delta.*

\* 116 Q.—Mr. M. SEETAYYA: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state how long the proposals for the formation of a second crop zone have been under consideration and when final orders are likely to be passed on the same?



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*Baling in the Periyar irrigation system.*

\* 111 Q.—MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether baling is a recognized method of irrigation in Periyar irrigation system; and

(b) if so, why permission for baling to certain lands and gardens under the channel or tank or on the margin of the waterspread of the tank is refused?

A.—(a) The Periyar sytem is designed to work with direct flow. Baling is therefore not a recognized factor in the system.

(b) Does not arise.

MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“With regard to clause (a), may I know whether baling is allowed in certain cases at least in the Periyar system?”

The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“It might have been allowed as a matter of practice, but it is not recognised that baling can be allowed as a question of right.”

MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“Is any special tax imposed in such cases?”

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MR. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—“In answer to a question which I put last time, the Government admitted that there was supply of water in the Periyar system for further extension of irrigation up to 10,000 acres or so. Do not Government consider that baling is a more economical way of irrigation? What is the objection of the Government in allowing this baling?”

The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Baling is economical for the parties concerned perhaps, but it may give rise to very serious positions if by baling water is taken away elsewhere from quarters which are entitled to water.”

MR. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—“The extent may be limited by permission in each case, because we have experience of such conditions allowed in certain areas in channels and river margins where permission is given for baling; and the Engineering Department can very well support my view that baling is more economical as it restricts itself to a certain area, and the area which can be commanded by baling would not be of a very large extent. So why not baling be allowed? It would not in any way lessen the supply to the existing lands as it has already been admitted that there is enough supply for further extension of irrigation up to 10,000 acres.”

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*Agreement regarding Nilayur channel in Madura district.*

\* 112 Q.—MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether an agreement was entered into between the Government and the ryots with regard to Nilayur channel in Madura district;

(b) if so, whether the Government will lay on the table a copy of the agreement;



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**Land Revenue.**

*Remission of land revenue in Tanjore owing to floods.*

\* 118 Q.—Mr. VENKATARAMA AYYAR alias PANTULU AYYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal by the Government to recommend remission of land revenue this year for Tanjore on account of floods;

(b) whether Government have formulated or will formulate any proposal to clear the silt from lands affected by the recent floods;

(c) the number of pukka buildings and huts fallen in the district of Tanjore during recent floods;

(d) whether free grants will be made towards the rebuilding of the houses and huts;

(e) whether it has been suggested to the Government to prohibit the export of paddy and food-stuffs from the Tanjore district, and, if so, what action the Government propose to take on such suggestion; and

(f) the total number of acreage either silted up or rendered unfit for cultivation due to the recent floods in the districts of Trichinopoly and Tanjore, respectively?

A.—(a) Copy of <sup>a</sup>G.O. Mis. No. 1725, dated the 6th November 1924, paragraph 1 is placed on the Table. Also of paragraph 1 of <sup>b</sup>G.O. No. 1931, dated 16th December 1924.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to G.O. No. 1599, Revenue, dated 15th October 1924, and G.O. No. 1759, Revenue, dated 12th November 1924, which have been placed on Editors' Table. The Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies is organizing societies for the purpose.

(c) Forty-three substantial buildings and 3,942 thatched houses were completely destroyed and 1,026 substantial buildings and 1,156 thatched houses were partially destroyed.

(d) & (e) The answer is in the negative.

(f) About 4,000 acres in Tanjore and about 5,000 acres in Trichinopoly are reported to be at present unfit for cultivation.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“With reference to the answer to clause (c) of this question, may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to be good enough to say what relief, if any, do the Government propose to grant or have granted for the rebuilding of the houses and buildings destroyed by the floods?”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“Loans have been given with special rates of interest.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“Apart from that loan which is available not only for rebuilding houses but for repair of damage to lands and any other purposes, do the Government propose to do or have they done anything by way of giving relief to the owners of those houses and buildings that were destroyed by floods?”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“No, Sir. That is being done by the Flood Relief Committee.”

<sup>a</sup> Printed as Appendix I (1) on page 344 infra. <sup>b</sup> Printed as Appendix I (2) on page 344 infra.



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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ That is to say, by the people themselves. With reference to the answer to clause (e) of this question, the answer is somewhat ambiguous. Does it mean that the Government have received no suggestion for the prohibition of export of paddy, or does it mean that they decline to take any action ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ So far as I am aware, no suggestion to that effect was made.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (f), I am simply asking for a clear explanation on the matter ; may I take it from the appendices appended to this answer that all these 4,000 acres in Tanjore and 5,000 acres in Trichinopoly are exempted from payment of assessment for this fasli ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ If they are unfit for cultivation, they will be given remission.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I see no necessity for the ‘ if ’, Sir. The answer itself shows that 4,000 acres in Tanjore and 5,000 in Trichinopoly are unfit for cultivation. I am asking, when this is admitted, whether these acres are exempted from payment of assessment in this fasli, since they are admitted by the Government as unfit for cultivation.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I have nothing to add to my previous answer, Sir.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I do not hear him, Sir.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I think the hon. the Revenue Member said that he had nothing to add to his previous answer.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ As the custodian of the privileges of this House, may I appeal to you, Sir, to ask the Members of the Treasury Bench to stand up and speak out so that we may hear ? ”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ Does the Government propose to take any action by way of prohibiting the export of paddy from the Tanjore district, so that some relief may be afforded to the people ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ With regard to the answer to clause (d), may I ask the hon. the Development Minister to tell us how many co-operative societies had been formed and what work has been done and what other work remains to be done ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ I have no information.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Will the hon. Minister kindly call for the information and furnish it ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ Yes, Sir.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (a) and the Government resolution printed on page 20 of Questions and Answers, I am at a loss to know why South Kanara is excluded from the exemption.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ There is a separate order, Sir, about South Kanara.”



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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I know what that order is, its number and date, etc. ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I would be pleased to give my hon. Friend a copy of it, Sir, if he wishes. I believe it has not been published.”

*Inquiry regarding assessment of backyard cultivation.*

\* 119 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the inquiry commenced in 1917 regarding the assessment of backyard cultivation has been finished and whether the Government have arrived at any decision in the matter and, if so, whether the Government will lay the papers on the table ?

A.—Presumably the hon. Member refers to the undertaking given by Sir Alexander Cardew in the discussion on a resolution moved by the hon. Mr. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar in November 1917. If so, the hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 3075, Revenue, dated 27th August 1918, which was placed on the Editors' Table.

**Survey.**

*Holding of Survey Special Test Examination in Malabar.*

\* 120 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a public hall was rented at Manjeri in order to hold the Special Test Examination of the Survey Department in Malabar in 1924 ;

(b) whether the examination was held either on the 27th or 28th November 1924 in the rented hall for the purpose or in a private house belonging to one of the candidates who sat for the said examination on the 29th November 1924 ;

(c) if the examination was held on the 29th November 1924 in the private house of one of the candidates who sat for the examination, the reason for so doing ;

(d) who the Superintendents of the examination were ;

(e) whether there was any re-examination of the Survey Special Test Examination in Malabar in any of the years from 1918 onwards and, if so, the reason for it, and who was responsible for it ; and

(f) how many persons applied for the examination held in 1924 and how many were selected and to what communities the selected men belong ?

A.—(a) to (f) The Government have no information.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ With reference to clause (b) my information is that the examination was held in a private house of one of the candidates who sat for the examination, though there was a rented hall for the purpose. Now, I ask, Sir, what was the necessity for holding the examination in a private house ? I consider that it is against public policy to do so. Therefore, I want to know whether the Government are not going to call for the information and place it on the Council table.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I am afraid, Sir, the matter does not appear to be of sufficient importance.”



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Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Am I to take it, Sir, that this is a very trivial matter and that the Government do not call for the information for that reason? Is this a very trivial matter, Sir, the holding of a public examination in a private hall?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member for the Government having said that he does not consider the matter to be of sufficient importance, it is not necessary for the hon. Member to press the matter now. He may return to it in some other way if he likes."

### Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

#### *Election of the Chairman of the Dindigul Municipality.*

\* 121 Q.—Mr. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Chairman, Dindigul Municipal Council, reported to the Government about the misbehaviour of certain councillors (which is said to have been the reason for the withdrawal of the elective privilege) about the close of March 1924 and again on 19th May 1924 and again on 23rd May 1924 about the tumultuous behaviour of certain councillors on 21st May 1924, i.e., during the time of the Chairman's election;

(b) whether he requested the Government to depute the Inspector of Municipalities to hold an enquiry into the affair;

(c) if the answer to items (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, what orders were passed thereon;

(d) whether the Subdivisional Magistrate had not issued on 21st May 1924 an order under 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in his magisterial capacity prohibiting all persons except the councillors in the meeting hall and whether Mr. C. Ponnuswami Nayudu alone was allowed as an exception;

(e) whether the Vice-Chairman has not in the reports made mention that the presence of Mr. C. Ponnuswami Nayudu in the meeting hall at the time of certain meetings mainly contributed to the misbehaviour of the councillors;

(f) whether it is a fact that the Subdivisional Magistrate held an enquiry as to whether Mr. Angamuthu Pillai was an elected councillor and, if the answer be in the affirmative, the provision of law under which he held this enquiry;

(g) whether it is not a fact that the Government directed about 10th June 1924 that either Mr. Muhammad Meera Sahib or Mr. R. Ramaswami Nayudu should establish their claim to the Chairmanship through a court of law;

(h) whether it is a fact that Muhammad Meera Sahib had accordingly filed a declaratory suit in the Sub-Court which is still pending and that a temporary injunction was granted to him restraining Mr. R. Ramaswami Nayudu from interfering with the duties of Chairman;

(i) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Chairman sent on 21st May 1924 a notification under the rules, for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, declaring Muhammad Meera Sahib as elected Chairman and, if the answer be in the affirmative, why it was withheld;



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(j) why the Government on 9th July 1924 issued an order to the Council to show cause why the privilege of electing its Chairman should not be withdrawn when the case as to who was the legal Chairman was *sub judice* and in the face of their orders directing the rival candidates to go to a court of law and establish their claims ;

(k) whether it is a fact that Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu was appointed a councillor about the close of April 1924 when there was no vacancy and whether any report was submitted by the Chairman to Government in this connexion ; and

(l) whether the Collector unduly interfered with the duties of Mr. Muhammad Meera Sahib as Chairman even though he was advised by the Vice-Chairman that he was the duly-elected Chairman ?

A.—The matter having been fully discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 5th December 1924 the Government are not prepared to furnish any further information.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ There are points, Sir, in this question which were not referred to either on one side or the other. Clauses (b), (c), (d), (e) and (k), as far as I can find out, raise questions which were not adumbrated either on the one side or the other. I am asking the hon. Minister now to answer those questions. I will put them one by one if he wants ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, I think that these questions are answered by the answer given already. As a matter of fact when the discussion on the subject took place in this House, these questions were answered.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I specifically ask then, so that the hon. Minister may refresh his memory, whether the vice-chairman did or did not send his report stating that the presence of Mr. Ponnuswami Nayudu mainly contributed to the misbehaviour of the councillors ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ May I know, Sir, whether it is a supplementary question arising from the answer given to the question.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I am entirely in your hands, Sir. I submit a supplementary question is a question which tries to elucidate the answer given in answer to a question. My submission, Sir, is that certain parts of the question have not been answered. It may mean anything. But I am entitled to question the Government why they have not answered. I am asking now with regard to a particular part of the question and if the Government say ‘ We won’t answer,’ I will ask other questions. But I ask you, Sir, to say whether this is not a supplementary question ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I hope the hon. Member evidently realises the inconvenience of putting quite a number of questions although it is not his fault. As the hon. Member considers that the Government are not prepared to furnish any further information I think the best thing would be to repeat these questions separately and ask for the information since the Government are not prepared to answer them now.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I would act upon the suggestion, Sir. But I am asking for a ruling as to whether my question is or is not a supplementary question. If it is supplementary question, the hon. Minister should either answer or keep quiet if he does not want to answer.”



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The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If the Government say that they are not prepared to furnish any further information and if the hon. Member is of opinion that the information furnished is not sufficient, it is a direct negative. I think it is open to him to raise the question in a separate form and take other opportunities."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"You have been referring to other 'opportunities.' I frankly say there are no opportunities. What are the opportunities? If we send up resolutions they never come. The questions come weeks after. The adjournment motions usually get disallowed by the Governor. What are we to do?"

Mr. P. L. MOORE:—"On a point of order, Mr. President, is the hon. Member in order in discussing the ruling which you, as President, have given?"

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"So far as I have heard, you have not given any ruling, Sir. You have given me a suggestion which I am accepting. I am asking you to give a ruling. And if you are giving a ruling, I will take it in a much better spirit than those sitting on the other side."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is not correct to say that it is not a supplementary question. It is a question of a sort and I would advise the hon. Member to put the question again. He has agreed to do so and I think we may close the question for the present at that."

*Nomination of Mr. R. Ramaswami Nayudu to the Dindigul Municipality.*

\* 122 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. R. Ramaswami Nayudu was nominated as a member of the Dindigul Municipal Council in April last on the recommendation by telegram of the Collector of Madura;

(b) the necessity for taking this extraordinary step instead of following the usual correspondence;

(c) whether at the time of nominating the said Mr. R. Ramaswami Nayudu the Government were aware that a Civil Revision Petition filed by him against the order of the Subordinate Judge declaring his election void was pending in the High Court;

(d) whether subsequent to nomination the Civil Revision Petition was withdrawn by him;

(e) whether the said Mr. R. Ramaswami Nayudu stood for the Chairmanship in May 1924 and was defeated; and

(f) whether any representations were made by him to Government to deprive the Council of the privilege of electing its Chairman?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative. The Collector has sent a telegram in addition to the usual official communication.

(b) There was nothing extraordinary in the step taken by the Collector.

(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

(d) The Government have no information.

(e) Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu stood for the chairmanship and one party represented that he was defeated.

(f) The answer is in the negative.



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Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Arising out of clause (a), may I ask the hon. the Minister whether the telegram preceded the usual official communication or not ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ May I also ask what interval elapsed between the sending of the telegram and the usual official communication ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I cannot say that off-hand ; I would like to have notice of the question.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ May I ask whether the step taken by the Collector is the one that is usually taken or taken only in exceptional circumstances ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, the Collectors do send telegrams when the nominations are urgent. They do wire to the Government making the necessary recommendations.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Therefore am I to understand that this case was treated as an exceptional case ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ It is not an exceptional case.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know from the hon. the Minister as to whether he is prepared to say that Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu was defeated or not ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I cannot say that. It is for a court to decide.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Does he maintain that he was elected ? ”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ May I know whether Government also sent a telegram appointing Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu as a member ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I think so, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know whether there was a vacancy for Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu being appointed ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ There must have been a vacancy. Without a vacancy no nomination could have been made.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ When the previous question was put, Government refused to answer and that is why I put this question.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ There must have been a vacancy.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ With reference to clause (c), may I ask the reasons why when Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu's election was held invalid by a subordinate judge he was nominated to the Dindigul Municipal Council while when the subordinate judge held the election valid, Mr. Prakasa Rao's name had not even been gazetted ? Is it because the one belongs to the Justice party and the other to the Congress party ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Certainly not, Sir. It is because the authority whose duty it was to recommend did recommend in the one case and there was no such recommendation in the other case.”



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Mr. P. ANJANEYALU :—“ May I know on what principle these nominations are made, because we see that members who are defeated in elections are being nominated? May I know whether there is any policy in these nominations? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I have only to refer the hon. Member to the provisions of the Act.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ The hon. Minister talked of recommendations in both the cases. Evidently he was not talking from the papers. In the one case it was an election and there need be no recommendation. That is in the case of Mr. Prakasa Rao. I am asking why in the case of the elected member his name was withheld, while in the case of another gentleman whose election was declared invalid he was nominated post-haste? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I may be mistaken in my recollection but was it not the case that this very point was fully threshed out by means of supplementary questions? If that is so, I do not want to go over the same ground again.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I am asking why Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu was nominated when his election was declared invalid, while in another case where the election was held valid it was not even notified. I wish to know whether there is any policy in all these.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I do not wish to allow an argument to be based on a matter which was put in a supplementary question.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Is it the policy of Government to nominate Justice Party candidates even though their election might be held to be invalid by competent courts? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, Justice Party or Injustice Party, when the candidates are recommended by the authorities and when the Government think that there is nothing against those recommendations they are accepted.”

Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—“ Is it a disqualification, Sir, to be nominated because he belongs to the Justice Party? ”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Is that the only qualification, Sir? ”

### Public Health.

#### *Provision for obtaining untainted vaccine.*

\* 123 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what are the various precautions taken in this province for providing vaccinators with untainted vaccine ;

(b) through which authorities the vaccine is sent to the district centres and from the district centres to other local centres ; and

(c) where the vaccine is prepared, by whom, under what supervision and control and subject to what precautionary measures?



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A.—(a) & (c) All vaccines are prepared in places specially appointed for the purpose at the King Institute under the expert supervision of the Director and the Assistant Director by a staff of specially trained assistants. All vaccines are duly tested before they are sent out.

(b) Vaccines are sent out from the King Institute according to a previously fixed programme to vaccinators direct.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I have known cases and heard cases in which vaccination has proved disastrous to children. That is the reason why I wish to know what precautions are taken. The answer is vague. I want to know how the vaccine is sent, how it is cased and all that.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The answer is that the Government have no information of vaccination proving disastrous to children. If the hon. Member has any such cases in view, it is perfectly open to him to bring them to the notice of the Government.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ There are hundreds of cases all over the Presidency and I wish to know whether sufficient precaution is taken.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ It is presumed that sufficient precautions are taken. If the hon. Member would bring to the notice of Government anything to the contrary, Government would make the necessary investigations.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“ Will the hon. Minister state whether the vaccinators are taking all the necessary precautions in vaccinating ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ It is rather a difficult question to answer. All that I can say is that they are expected to take all the precautions.”

### Education.

*Access for depressed classes to the elementary day school in Kalpathy agraharam.*

\* 124 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that an elementary day school is located in a rented building in the Kalpathy agraharam within Palghat municipal limits to which the members of the depressed classes have no access through the public way ;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to make enquiries into the matter ;

(c) how many teachers are employed in the school ;

(d) how many Brahman teachers and how many non-Brahman teachers ;

(e) how many trained teachers and how many untrained teachers are employed ;

(f) whether the Government are aware that the depressed class member who represents the depressed classes on the Palghat Municipal Council cannot even go to the school to inspect the school owing to prohibition by the Kalpathy Brahmans ; and



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(g) if the Government have no information with reference to clauses (a) to (f), whether they will be pleased to call for the information?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know from the hon. the Minister for Education whether the report said to have been called for will be placed on the table of the House as soon as it is received?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Yes.”

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

#### Emigration.

##### *Recruitment of coolies to Assam.*

125 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the action taken by the Government on the report of the Commissioner of Labour No. E. 276/24, dated 22nd November 1924, regarding the recruitment of coolies to Assam;

(b) the number of Sirdars in the Madras Presidency who held offices as such, in November 1924, though they had not worked on the estates in Assam even for three months; and

(c) whether there is any provision for sending back on a medical certificate coolies who are recruited for Assam tea estates but are unable to stand the climate there?

A.—(a) The Government have addressed the Government of Assam and the Assam Labour Board in connexion with the report;

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) There is no provision to this effect in the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, 1901, as amended; attention is, however, invited to section 159 of the Act.

#### Forests.

##### *Reserve forests in Agaram firka in Vellore taluk.*

126 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the villages in the Agaram firka in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, where the cultivated lands and homesteads are within a distance of half a mile of the reserved forests;

(b) how many villagers have their patta lands just adjacent to and touching the reserve line;

(c) the extent of grazing poramboke available in each village;

(d) whether it is a fact that more than 1,000 acres of the present reserve were under cultivation by the ryots of these villages prior to the resettlement some twelve years back;

(e) whether it is a fact that wells, survey stones, etc., are found within the reserve limits even to-day; and

(f) whether the whole forest area is mere scrub jungle and is used only for grazing?



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A.—The Government have no information. A special report has been called for from the Chief Conservator on forest questions in the North Arcot district and the points raised by the hon. Member will be referred to him.

*The Arasampattu reserve forest in North Arcot district.*

127 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Arasampattu reserve was within the Vellore-Ambur range in North Arcot district for the last forty years;

(b) whether within the last five years it has been split up into small portions and attached to a number of ranges;

(c) if so, what are the ranges;

(d) whether ryots are obliged to take different permits for grazing the same cattle in different ranges; and

(e) whether the Government have under their consideration the question of allowing one single permit to be available for grazing cattle in all the ranges within the same reserve?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information. A special report has been called for from the Chief Conservator on forest questions in the North Arcot district. The points raised by the hon. Member will be referred to him.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes.

*Permits for cattle grazing in the reserve forests in North Arcot district.*

128 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that penning cattle within the reserve is allowed on a payment of rupee one per annum per pen in North Arcot district; and

(b) whether the District Forest Officer, North Vellore, recently refused to allow such permits to the ryots generally and to the village mansif of Arimalai in Vellore taluk?

A.—The Government have no information. A separate report has been called for from the Chief Conservator on forest questions in the North Arcot district and the points now raised by the hon. Member will be referred to him.

*Petitions from ryots in North Arcot district regarding disafforestation of reserves, etc.*

129 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received petitions from ryots from North Arcot district regarding—

(i) disafforestation of reserves,

(ii) free supply of manure leaves, and

(iii) grazing permits being available in all the ranges within one reserve;



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(b) whether he has obtained the views of the Forest officers on the subject;

(c) whether he has passed any orders on these petitions; and

(d) whether Government have under consideration the appointment of a committee to inquire into the forest grievances of the ryots in North Arcot district on the lines of the Chittoor Forest Committee?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) A special report has been called for from the Chief Conservator

(d) No.

*Cultivable land in reserve forests.*

130 Q.—Mr. C. D. APPAVU CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Chief Conservator of Forests has issued a circular recently that even if there is arable land inside the reserve forest, such land should not be given for cultivation but it should be given to village panchayat?

A.—The Government are informed that no circular containing such an instruction as is referred to by the hon. Member has been issued.

*Government policy of afforestation.*

131 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any policy of afforestation to be put into effect in the near future; and

(b) if they have such a policy, the chief measures of that policy?

A.—(a) & (b) If by afforestation the hon. Member means the addition of new areas to the Forest Reserves, it is not the present policy of Government to undertake such general additions; but if the hon. Member refers to the regeneration of forest growth in forest areas which have been denuded of trees, that is a policy which the Government have constantly in view.

132 Q.—[Cancelled.]

**Criminal Justice.**

*Posting of cases to Aruppukottai by the Divisional Magistrate of Ramnad.*

133 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that owing to the Divisional Officer, Sivakasi, having no appellate powers all criminal appeals are transferred to Ramnad Divisional Officer and the parties put to enormous worry and expense; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Divisional Officer, Ramnad, posts his criminal cases to Aruppukottai where plague has been raging for some months past and the parties are unnecessarily put in danger of losing their lives; how many days he camped in Aruppukottai for the last three months and how many cases were posted there?



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A.—(a) The Subdivisional Magistrate, Sivakasi, has not been granted appellate powers yet.

(b) The Government have no information on these points.

*Seating arrangements for pleaders, etc., in Sub-Magistrates' Courts.*

134 Q.—Mr. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that, in the matter of seating arrangements for pleaders and lawyers in the mufassal Sub-Magistrates' Courts, benches are provided; and

(b) whether Government intend to provide chairs instead?

A.—(a) Both benches and chairs are provided.

(b) The matter is within the discretion of each Magistrate; the Government have received no complaints.

*Indian Civil Service members employed as District and Additional District Judges.*

135 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state how many members of the Indian Civil Service of less than ten years' service are at present employed as District and Additional District Judges?

A.—None.

*Certain remarks of the Collector of Bellary on an application for licence for a procession.*

136 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the following remarks of Mr. A. C. Duff, the Collector of Bellary, in his proceedings D. Dis. C No. 1808/24-A-2, dated the 15th of October 1924, regarding the application made by the alleged Pattadaswami of Sirigeri mut for a licence to go in procession through the village of Uttangi in the same district with certain paraphernalia:

“A District Magistrate in a district is not the authority to grant recognition of a ‘Guru’. Neither are civil courts the authority. The Panchacharas admit that their Gurus received their recognition from the King. To-day the local representative of the King in the district is the District Collector; I recognize the Sadar Guru as a ‘Guru’. I hold that as Collector I am competent to recognize the Sadar Guru as a ‘Guru’;” and

(b) whether the views of the Collector above quoted are correct and he is justified in arrogating to himself the position of the King's local representative in the district?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information about the matter referred to.



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**Irrigation.***Irrigation Panchayats, Bellary district.*

137 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether irrigation panchayats have been established for only two channels of the Tungabhadra in the Bellary district and he proposes to extend the panchayats to the other Tungabhadra channels in the district?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 220 L, dated 8th August 1923, which has been placed on Editors' Table. As regards the second portion, no such proposal is under the consideration of Government at present.

**Electricity.***Supply of electric power to Ootacamund, etc.*

138 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any intention of taking up the question of themselves arranging to get electric power and to supply it to the towns of Ootacamund, Coonoor, Wellington and Coimbatore;

(b) whether the right of supplying the power to those places has been given to any private firm and if so, when and under what conditions; and

(c) whether the Government are negotiating to purchase the right from that firm and if so in what stage those negotiations are now?

A.—(a) The matter has been taken up already and is under consideration.

(b) Yes; in October 1920, subject to the formation of a registered company to work the concession.

(c) No.

**Government Press.***The work in the Government Press, Madras.*

139 Q.—RAO SAHIB U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent, Government Press, discontinued printing his own office establishment list;

(b) if so, since what date;

(c) whether it is a fact that seven Tamil District Gazettes are being printed and issued from the Government Branch Press, Mount Road; whether it is also a fact that the present acting Senior Examiner of the same Press is unacquainted with the Tamil language;

(d) what are the various duties of the Examiner in charge of the Government Branch Press, Mount Road; whether it is a fact that seven or eight experienced copyholders' services were dispensed with during the present acting Senior Examiner's short tenure of office;

(e) whether it is a fact that the revised edition of the Government Press Manual has not yet been published; when was the last edition printed; and who is responsible for the delay; and

(f) the number of dismissals, departmentalwar, made by Mr. Gilbert, the present Superintendent, Government Press, from the date of his assumption of the office of Superintendent to the end of 30th September 1924?



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**Irrigation.**

*Regulation of field irrigation.*

\* 110 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Public Works Department subordinates regulate field irrigation ;

(b) if so, whether they are guided by the applications for water ;

(c) whether there are any principles adopted in the disposal of applications and certification of irrigability for granting water-supply to lands ;

(d) if so, the tests which go to decide the irrigability or otherwise of lands for granting permits for permanent supply or for transferring the lands to permanent wet, or for refusing water-supply to the lands ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Executive Engineer, Madura division, does not mention the reason or justify his action for refusing supply of water to certain lands for the information of the party and the Revenue Department ; and

(f) if so, whether the Government will in future instruct the officer to specify the reasons for refusing supply of water ?

A.—(a) Under the larger irrigation systems the general distribution of water is controlled by the irrigation staff, but not the detailed distribution from field to field.

(b), (c) & (d) Where procedure by water application is in use, the applications are dealt with on the basis of sufficiency of supply, possibility of command and any special factors which would prejudicially affect permanent wet lands or other public interests. Subject to these necessary considerations it is the definite policy of Government to extend irrigation to the largest possible area.

(e) & (f) It is not possible to give an adequate reply without specific instances, but if it is considered that in any district water applications are unreasonably refused the Chief Engineer will enquire into the matter if specific instances are given.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Sir, with regard to clause (f) I am referring to the Madura district, and I want the reasons should be given so that the applicant may appeal to the higher authorities. Moreover, if the reasons are not given in the application it will be impossible to find out whether the application is based on proper grounds.”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I shall consider that matter, Sir.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ One of the factors taken into account in these matters is the sufficiency of water. May I know if, when an application for water is granted, the Government guarantee the supply of water ?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know if, as a result of these applications, there is really any appreciable change in the extent of land under cultivation either under first crop or under second crop ?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I want notice, Sir.”



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the proportion admissible up to the date of grant as calculated with reference to the maximum of 15 days for the whole year. The Government are of opinion that this involves no hardship.

### Deputy Collectors.

#### *The work of the Divisional Officer of Ramnad.*

141 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Divisional Magistrate's work in Ramnad is normally heavy and one Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar is the Deputy Collector in charge of that division;

(b) the total number of years during which he has exercised magisterial functions;

(c) whether any complaints have been received that he is rude to legal practitioners appearing in his court; and

(d) whether he was recently confirmed in his appointment and whether he superseded any non-Brahmans in service and how many and on what grounds?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A little more than seven years.

(c) No.

(d) He was recently confirmed as deputy collector. He did not supersede any non-Brahman acting as deputy collector.

#### *Orders of transfer of Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar, Divisional Magistrate, Ramnad.*

142 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar, Deputy Collector in charge of Ramnad division, was recently transferred to be the Land Acquisition Officer for Virudunagar-Tenkasi Railway; whether it is also a fact Mr. N. Kovilpillai, a senior Deputy Collector, was posted to that division and had actually gone to Ramnad to take over charge;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Mr. Subrahmanya Ayyar received telegraphic orders cancelling his transfer and Mr. D. Manikkam Pillai, an Indian Christian Deputy Collector of Devakottai senior to Mr. Ayyar, was transferred to land acquisition duty; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Kovilpillai was asked to go to Devakottai after he had reached Ramnad and why this extraordinary step was taken in favour of the junior Deputy Collector Mr. Ayyar?

A.—Yes. The change in the postings was made in the public interests.

### Irrigation.

#### *Repairs to the bund of Banki Eri in Vellore taluk.*

143 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the bund of one Banki Eri that was irrigating the villages of Kallapurai, Asanampet, Pudupet, etc., in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, was broken some twenty years back; and



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(b) whether it is a fact that it has not been repaired yet and whether the villagers concerned suffer for want of irrigation facilities?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

### Land Revenue.

*Assignment of lands in Valkadai, North Arcot district.*

144 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased, with reference to answer to interpellation No. 1193, dated 14th November 1924, to call for and lay on the table a report as to—

(a) whether any applications for house-sites have been received from the people of Valkadai;

(b) how many applications were received for the assignment of lands from members of depressed classes and from caste people;

(c) how many assignments have so far been made;

(d) of the above how many for the depressed classes and how many for the caste-people;

(e) whether any portion has been specially reserved for the depressed classes;

(f) if not specially reserved for the depressed classes, whether the land is available for being assigned to ryots of the other castes under Darkhast rules;

(g) whether Government are considering the feasibility of organizing co-operative societies for the common cultivation of the disafforested areas; and

(h) whether any such proposals have been received?

A.—There are no facts before the Government which render any enquiry necessary.

*Agricultural holdings of 4 acres and less in the Presidency.*

145 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of agricultural holdings of 4 acres and less in the Presidency;

(b) the proportion such holdings bear to the total number of holdings; and

(c) the proportion borne by the revenue paid by such holdings to the total land revenue of the Presidency?

A.—The revenue accounts contain particulars of pattas, not of holdings. It is possible that one patta covers more than one holding or only part of one holding. Pattas are not classified according to the extent of land they refer to but according to the amount of revenue payable on each. The information the hon. Member requires is therefore not available.

### Village Establishments.

*District Village Officers' conference held at Mayavaram and Chidambaram.*

146 Q.—Rao Bahadur K. KRISHNASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolutions passed at the District Village Officers'



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conference held at Mayavaram and Chidambaram on 12th October 1924 and 15th December 1924 respectively and if so, what action they propose to take to annul the amalgamation of villages as already resolved upon by the Legislative Council?

A.—Yes. The question is under consideration.

*'Batta' for karnams for doing electoral work.*

147 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the 'batta' payable to karnams for work done in the preparation of electoral rolls before the last general elections and sanctioned in G.O. No. 1958, Revenue, dated 21st August 1920, has been disbursed in the districts of Anantapur and Bellary; if not, the reasons for the delay and whether the hon. Member proposed to issue necessary instructions for speedy payment?

A.—Under the Government Order quoted no batta was sanctioned for work to be done but a lump sum was promised in case the village officers were specially summoned away from their villages. The Government have no reason to believe that payments so promised have been delayed or withheld.

### Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

*The Dindigul Municipal Council.*

148 Q.—MR. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how long the Dindigul municipality had enjoyed the privilege of electing its chairman before it was deprived of it by recent orders;

(b) whether Government acted on the initiative of the municipal council or of any of their officers;

(c) whether it is a fact that the council by a majority decided that it should not be deprived of its privilege of electing its chairman;

(d) the authority under which the Government took this step;

(e) whether Government have received a letter from the Chairman, Municipal Council, protesting against the proposal;

(f) what orders the Government have passed thereon;

(g) whether it is a fact that several councillors have resigned as a protest; and

(h) when the Government propose to reinvest the council with its franchise?

A.—(a) The Municipal Council enjoyed the privilege since 1885.

(b) to (h) The matter having been fully discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 5th December 1924 the Government are not prepared to furnish any further information.

*Local boards and municipalities in which public funds were misappropriated.*

149 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) all the cases in local boards and municipalities where public funds were misappropriated;



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- (b) who the delinquents are so far as present investigations go ;
- (c) what are all the steps taken to book the offenders and to recover the sums misappropriated ;
- (d) whether investigation is complete in all the cases and if not, the cases still pending investigation ;
- (e) who was in charge of the investigation and who is in charge now, whether it is departmental officers or the police ;
- (f) what is the amount embezzled in each case and what is the amount recovered in each case and whether the balance is irrecoverable ; and
- (g) whether any of the persons were put before the criminal courts and with what result ?

A.—The question does not state the year or years in respect of which the particulars are required. The attention of the hon. Member is however invited to the following paragraphs in the consolidated audit reports of municipalities and local boards for the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24 :—

- (1) Paragraph 11 in Part I and paragraph 4 in Part II of the report for 1921-22 recorded in G.O. No. 487, Finance, dated 31st May 1923, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.
- (2) Paragraphs 37 to 39 and 62 and 63 of the report for 1922-23 recorded in G.O. No. 2769, L. & M., dated the 4th October 1924 (placed on the Editors' Table).
- (3) Paragraphs 35 and 73 of the report for 1923-24 (extracts appended).

Such particulars of the defalcations as are worth mentioning are furnished in the paragraphs referred to above.

Complete information in each case on all the points referred to in the question is not available.

*Village roads in the Tirukkoyilur taluk.*

150 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any new village roads have been built in the Tirukkoyilur taluk of the South Arcot district in the year 1924-25 ;
- (b) whether any petitions have been received by the district authorities from certain Christian villages of Eraiyur in the Tirukkoyilur taluk of the South Arcot district in October of last year for the building of a road in their neighbourhood ; and
- (c) what action the district authorities have taken in the matter ?

A.—The Government have no information.

*District Retrenchment Committee for Bellary.*

151 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government appointed a District Retrenchment Committee for the district of Bellary to consider the financial position of the 'local boards' in the district ;



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(b) if so, who were the personnel of the said Committee and what were its recommendations;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Committee recommended that the taluk boards in the district should be reconstituted on the basis of the revenue divisions and that in consequence the newly formed taluk boards of Harpanahalli and Rayadrug should be abolished; if so, for what reasons;

(d) when were the taluk boards of Rayadrug and Harpanahalli constituted;

(e) whether it is a fact that the President of the District Board, Bellary, as the President of the said Committee, forwarded the said recommendations for the favourable consideration of the Government; if so, on what date; and

(f) whether the District Board and the concerned taluk boards of the district were consulted and their opinion taken before the said recommendations were forwarded to the Government?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Presidents of the District Board and Taluk Boards, the Collector of the district and the Treasury Deputy Collector, Bellary. Copies of its<sup>a</sup> proceedings, dated 1st December 1923 and 30th March 1924, are appended.

(c) Yes; in its proceedings of the 30th March 1924 for the reasons that such re-arrangement will remove several anomalies alleged to be prevailing and that it will conduce to economy.

(d) The Rayadrug Taluk Board was constituted with effect from 1st April 1911 and Harpanahalli with effect from 31st March 1921.

(e) Yes on 2nd April and 23rd June 1924

(f) Yes.

*Abolition of the Taluk Boards of Harpanahalli and Rayadrug.*

152 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the President of the Bellary District Board recommended to the Government the abolition of both the Taluk Boards of Harpanahalli and of Rayadrug or only that of Rayadrug; if so, what were the reasons made out by him for this invidious distinction;

(b) what is the present financial condition of (i) Bellary District Board, (ii) of the four taluk boards in the district; whether they are working with a deficit or with a surplus; whether it is a fact that the budget of the Rayadrug Taluk Board is now balanced;

(c) what is the saving that would be effected if the Rayadrug Taluk Board is abolished;

(d) what is the reconstitution of the Taluk Boards proposed in case the Rayadrug Taluk Board is abolished;

(e) whether the opinions of the District Board and the concerned Taluk Boards have since been called for by the Government; if so, on what date; whether all the opinions have been received and whether he will lay the whole correspondence on the table;

<sup>a</sup> Printed as Appendix III on pages 349-350 infra.



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(f) whether it is a fact that the Government order calling for the opinion of the Local Boards was received by the District Board of Bellary on the 16th of October and it was placed by the President before the meeting of the District Board convened for the 18th October without notice and inserted in the agenda at the fag end of the day at about 8-15 p.m.;

(g) whether certain members of the District Board, Messrs. Kotilingam, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Mr. K. Brahma Sastri protested against its being placed for consideration at the said meeting and their protest was not heeded by the President and whether any of them have sent up any dissenting minutes in respect of the same matter; and

(h) whether the Government propose to remit the question for the reconsideration of that Board under the circumstances?

A.—(a) The District Committee, appointed to consider the financial condition of each local board in the Bellary district, recommended the abolition of the Rayadrug Taluk Board as its finances were unsatisfactory. According to the normal budget prepared by that committee, the revenues of the Harpanahalli Taluk Board covered its expenditure.

(b) The information is given below:—

Name of board.	Anticipated closing balance according to budget for 1924-25 after taking credit for the compassionate grant given in column (2).		Surplus or deficit according to normal budget.
	Compassionate grant.	Closing balance.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Bellary District Board ...	32,209	1,998	+ 10,000
Adoni Taluk Board ...	...	— 3,736	+ 4,122
Bellary Taluk Board ...	...	— 4,403	+ 7,205
Rayadrug Taluk Board ...	3,447	...	— 3,455
Hospet Taluk Board ...	...	1,459	+ 210
Harpanahalli Taluk Board.	2,781	...	+ 450

The Rayadrug Taluk Board submitted a revised normal budget showing a surplus of about Rs. 207. It could not be approved as it was impracticable.

(c) About Rs. 3,980.

(d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 330.

(e) The opinions of the District Board and the Taluk Boards were called for in G.O. No. 2849, L. & M., dated 14th October 1924. The opinions have been received. The Government are not prepared to lay the correspondence on the table.

(f) & (g) The Government understand that the facts are as indicated.

(h) No.



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*Distance rule as between one toll-gate and another.*

153 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the distance that should ordinarily be allowed between one toll-gate and another on the same road and whether the distance rule, if any, need not be observed, if the road in question happens to be within the limits partially of one district board and partially of another?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to instruction 218 of the Local Boards Manual. Neighbouring district boards may, but are not bound to, observe the instruction in respect of the same road.

*The remarks of the Government on the Dindigul Municipal Council.*

154 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the materials on which the Government have remarked in respect of the Dindigul Municipal Council that 'the Councillors behaved in a disorderly manner'; and

(b) how 'public interests' were subjected to 'personal prejudices'?

A.—The matter having already been fully discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 5th December 1924, the Government see no need to furnish any further information.

**Medical.***Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General.*

155 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is not a fact that the appointment of Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General is a full-timed appointment, and that the Personal Assistant is not allowed to have any private practice;

(b) whether the present incumbent is holding any other appointment, temporarily or permanently; and

(c) how long he has been holding such appointment?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The present Personal Assistant is holding temporarily the appointments of Superintendent, Rayapuram Hospital, and Medical Inspector of Emigrants in addition to his duties.

(c) He has been in charge of the additional duties since the 3rd July 1924. Orders have been issued appointing another officer as Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General.

**Registration.***Vacancies in the cadre of district registrar.*

156 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of vacancies (permanent) among district registrars which occurred in 1924;



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- (b) when the vacancies occurred in each case ;
- (c) when they were filled up permanently in each case ;
- (d) whether any of them have not yet been filled up ; and if so, which ;
- (e) what, if any, are the reasons for not filling up the said vacancies permanently ;
- (f) whether there are no competent people to fill up the vacancies ;
- (g) whether any direct recruitment to fill up the vacancies is contemplated ; and
- (h) when the vacancies are likely to be filled up and how ?

- A.—(a) Five.
- (b) 3rd March ; 1st July ; 9th August ; 19th September ; and 6th November 1924.
- (c) & (d) None of the vacancies has been permanently filled up.
- (e) (f) & (h) The question of filling up the vacancies permanently is under consideration.
- (g) No.

## II

### DISCUSSION REGARDING STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

[Note.—An asterisk (\*) at the beginning of each speech indicates revision by the Member.]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I think, Sir, the first hour has to be devoted to questions. Now that we have finished all the starred questions can we not proceed with the unstarred ones ? ”

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I do not know what the House would like to do in the matter. We have so far agreed not to have oral questions put on unstarred questions and the Government, I presume, are not prepared for any supplementary questions on the ‘ unstarred ’ questions. If it is the desire of the House that when the ‘ starred ’ questions are over within the hour, we should go on with the ‘ unstarred ’ ones, the point will be considered and it is one which is very much in the hands of the House. As our present procedure is experimental we have not yet framed any Standing Orders authorising the procedure. The point will certainly be noted. I say this because I have observed in another Council that ‘ unstarred ’ questions were being dealt with after the ‘ starred ’ questions were over. But it is a Council where the number of ‘ starred ’ questions is not in any way as large as it is here.”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“ With reference to this matter, when I raised the question of validity of the ruling upon ‘ unstarred ’ questions, you asked me to communicate my views. I did so a few weeks back and I do not know what has happened.”

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I have seen the hon. Member’s opinion and I am very much indebted to him for it. The Secretary will communicate to him the substance of what I have noted on the opinion. I do not profess to be able to recollect all that I said in the written communication. If he would please wait—I hope the communication is already on its way to him—and then raise any further points at question-time we can further consider the matter.”



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\* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May we know whether any scrutiny is made upon the starred questions as we send them? Supposing we send a large number of questions starred, is there anything done in your office to restrict the number?”

11-45 a.m.  
\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Whatever is done is in accordance with the announcement made by me. That is to say, Members' starred questions are taken up as such and communicated to the departments. When answers are received, not more than eight questions for each Member are put down for each day. Consequently, if the number of starred questions sent up by an hon. Member exceeds the number of days available in a sitting multiplied by eight, it will necessarily follow that the balance of the starred questions will either have to be renewed by him as starred questions for the next month's meeting or included in the official report with their answers in the same manner as unstarred questions. I have already informed hon. Members that it is open to them to adopt whichever course they like. If they wish their questions to be answered as soon as possible, then it will be better that the balance of questions is answered in the official report like unstarred questions. But if they want an opportunity of putting oral supplementary questions, it is better to renew them and wait till they are answered as starred questions.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ I thought there was no necessity to renew the question for the next month. When we put a number of starred questions, it is with the hope that all our questions will be answered in the same meeting. All of them may be taken as starred questions, and if by chance the Government are liberal in sending answers to more than eight questions of one Member, eight questions may be answered on one day and the others the next day.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ That is what is being done. If it is the desire of hon. Members that so long as the session lasts—this time it will be till the end of March or the first few days of April—all starred questions should be kept on the list and answered as starred questions during the session, it can be done. If, on the other hand, they want the starred questions to be answered expeditiously during the interval, we shall have to do something else.”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“ If there is time after answering the supplementary questions on starred questions, may I know whether you will not permit supplementary questions to be put on the unstarred questions?”

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The point was raised by the hon. Member for Bellary. I said there were two difficulties; one was that the Government had no notice of this intention; therefore they would not be prepared with answers for supplementary questions; and the second was that we have had a certain understanding up to now, and until we arrive at another understanding it is better that we go on with the present experiment.”

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ If we put supplementary questions on unstarred questions, are they to be answered on the same day, or will seven days' notice be insisted on?”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ It will depend on the ability of the Government to answer them immediately.”



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MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ Why I raise this question is this. Yesterday I handed over to the Secretary, few supplementary questions in writing and I am not sure when they will be answered.”

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ It is always a matter of uncertainty what time will be required to furnish an answer to a question, whether original or supplementary.”

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—“ Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions. That is to say, written supplementary questions will be allowed. Supposing we write out and hand in written supplementary questions before the order of the day commences for questions and answers, then may we not have an answer the same day? That is my doubt.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ It will depend on the nature of the question. But I would like the Government to consider the matter. It is hardly necessary to ask them however, because a question may demand a great amount of time and reference to other authorities.”

MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“ When we hand in written questions, I hope they will at once be sent to the Member in charge. May we not then expect an answer as soon as possible? I am aware that in the case of original questions notice is required under the Standing Orders. But in the case of oral questions, when they are handed in writing can they not be answered immediately without the usual notice? It is my intention to ask for answers regarding my questions. As a matter of fact, if the questions were starred, the Government would have to answer them without notice. So when written questions are handed to them, they may be expected to answer them, unless they find it indispensable to ask for some time to answer.”

\* Mr. P. L. MOORE :—“ I have a little experience of answering these questions in my office. I should like very definitely to say that it would be absolutely impossible to expect written supplementary questions put on one morning to be answered the same day. It is impossible to answer any other questions in the course of the same morning. I think it will be very unfair to the office.”

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I think the hon. Member from Ganjam did not insist upon questions being answered the very same day or the next day. What he wanted to know was whether Government would insist on the seven days' notice in the case of written supplementary questions exactly as in the case of original questions. I think the Government will not insist on such notice.”

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—“ I am afraid that we are day by day deviating from the very spirit of supplementary questions. First, we had the privilege of putting supplementary questions to every question we put. According to the present system, we have agreed that we shall have supplementary questions put only to the starred questions. That means our privilege is restricted to the starred questions. Again, the Government is bound to answer as far as possible all supplementary questions put in this House on those questions. But here in respect of our giving written supplementary questions to unstarred questions, we are not able to get answers the



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same day, though as a matter of fact they ought to be able to give answers that very day under the old system. I think that is how we are deviating from the spirit underlying the system of supplementary questions."

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Surely the hon. Member does not overlook the answer sometimes given 'I want notice.' The answers are given in print, and under the old system when oral supplementary questions were put, the Government often wanted notice and the same notice may occasionally be required in regard to oral supplemental questions. Also, in the previous system the Government had notice of the fact that they had to answer supplementary questions. But now they would be quite unprepared for any further questions, being assured of the fact that there would be no supplementary questions, with regard to the unstarred questions. There is no deviation therefore."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo:—"If the Government ask for notice, it is a deviation."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May we take it that all supplementary questions given in writing would be answered the same day or on the next?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"May I call the attention of the hon. Member to Standing Order 18? 'A Member to whom a supplementary question is addressed may decline to answer it without notice, in which case the supplementary question may be put only in the form of a fresh question at a subsequent meeting of the Council.' I do not see any reason why we should not follow in this case the Council's own deliberate Standing Order."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"I only want to know where Government are in a position to answer why they should not do it without delay."

\* The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"May I point out that the Government do not insist on the seven days' notice? The procedure is that any question coming in is taken up at once for answer, and as soon as the answer is ready it is passed on to the Council Office."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"There is one difficulty. In the case of supplementary questions to unstarred questions, are we not to have notice beforehand? Suppose I send half a dozen questions and they are to be answered on a particular day, by what process are the Members of the House to be kept informed of the fact that these supplementary questions will be answered that day?"

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"For what purpose does the hon. Member want previous notice? Answers to supplementary unstarred questions will only be given in print, and when they reach the hon. Members in print it will certainly be open to them to consider what further questions may be put. I do not think there is anything gained by giving previous notice."

\* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Do I understand that we shall get answers to these supplementary questions only when we get the reports of these proceedings? Now it takes three to four weeks before we get the printed report of the Council Proceedings. My second point is this. I quite realize the point the hon. the Leader of the House raised, viz., that under the Standing Order Government can ask for notice when they cannot answer a supplementary question. What other hon. Members and I want to guard against is that



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[Mr. S. Satyamurti]

the Government should not make it a kind of unwritten law that, with regard to all unstarred questions, supplementary questions will be answered only after notice. I do not know if I have made myself clear. There are supplementary questions and supplementary questions. Some of them are answered at once, and for some of them they ask for notice. That is the rule we are following with regard to oral questions. With regard to written questions, what the hon. the Leader of the House and Mr. Moore want is to treat them practically as if they were new questions."

\* The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"I should like to point out to my hon. Friend that he is not in the least correct in stating that to be my desire. As I have already said, we want merely that we should not be deprived of the privilege of asking for notice in the case of supplementary questions."

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I should add with reference to the first question put by the hon. Member for the University that I do not see any reason why the answers to supplementary questions should not be printed along with answers to unstarred questions day by day as they come in from the Government. I shall see that it is so done by the Council Office."

## III

## THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to inform the House that Mr. Muhammad Moosa Sait was nominated for election to the Finance Committee. As the number nominated is equal to the number of vacancy to be filled, namely one, I do hereby declare the abovementioned gentleman to be duly elected under Regulation II (4) of the Regulations for the holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote."

## IV

## AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

*Standing Orders 2 (2), 6 (3), 40 (2) and 64.*

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to inform the House that the following six gentlemen were nominated for election to the Select Committee to consider the amendments to Standing Orders 2 (2), 6 (3), 40 (2) and 64:—

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. | 5. Khan Bahadur Khalifulla Sahib Bahadur.    |
| 2. Mr. J. A. Saldanha.              | 6. Diwan Bahadur W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar. |
| 3. Mr. G. Rameswara Rao.            |  |
| 4. Mr. S. Satyamurti.               |  |

As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, six, I do hereby declare the abovementioned gentlemen to be duly elected under Regulation II (4) of the Regulations for the holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote. As already announced, Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, one of the Chairmen of the Council, has been nominated by me to serve on the Committee under Standing Order 76 in addition to the Deputy President and the Advocate-General who will be on the Committee *ex officio*."



[5th February 1925]

**Non-official business.**

v

**THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL (a).**

• Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, under Standing Order 38, I beg to introduce the Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act of 1920, for the introduction of which the Council was on a previous occasion pleased to grant leave. The main object of this Bill is to amend sections 98, 99 and 105 of the Act so as to make them more clear. The words ‘ kept or let out for hire within the municipality ’ were interpreted in such a way that persons owning carts and animals outside the municipal limits are being benefited by being permitted to take out licences for vehicles and animals, though they were not given that privilege by the old Act of 1884. The new Act sections 98, 99 and 105 were drafted in accordance with the old Act sections of 77 and 85. What made me bring this Bill all of a sudden is that recently the opinion was given by the hon. Advocate-General that ‘ kept or let out for hire within the municipality ’ means that any vehicle that enters and goes out of a municipality taking in either passengers or goods for more than 15 days is liable for vehicles and animals tax. If this system of granting licence to outsiders was the genuine intention of the authors of the Act of 1920 it would be unnecessary for them to put in section 11 (2) as a compoundable section. In reality, if they are to give out licences for outsiders I don’t understand with whom the Municipal Council will have to compound for tolls. Most of the carts that are taking in passengers or goods in a municipality will be those whose owners are residing in villages very near to the municipality and they will voluntarily apply for vehicle and animal tax which will be undoubtedly a very much lower sum than the toll. If that system be continued we can see in no time many municipalities working with a deficit balance and the local bodies will have nil income under tolls. A similar section in the old Act has been well explained by Sir Murray Hammick, who was once Secretary to Government, in his Municipal Manual. He says ‘ It is obvious to say that if a man lives within the municipality he must take out licence for vehicles and animals under section 77 or 85 of the Act. But if he lives outside the municipality he must either pay tolls or take out a licence under section 91 (2) which is a compoundable licence section.’ My opinion in adding a new sub-clause to section 105 as (h) is that when a vehicle is licenced for vehicle and animal tax in one municipality it should not be given the same privilege in any other municipality or local body that is levying vehicle and animal tax.

“ So, my sole object in bringing this Bill is to prevent vehicles and animals that are owned by persons other than bona fide residents of a municipality from being licenced for vehicle and animal tax and not to allow vehicles and animals being licenced in two or more adjacent municipalities at one and the same time and to see that the municipalities are not losers of toll income by the new Act of 1920, which was well safeguarded under the old Act of 1884.

(a) Published in Part IV of the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 6th January 1925.



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"If the Government finds any difficulty as to the wording, I have no objection to modify the Bill when it comes to the select committee. I only ask the Government to accept the underlying principle of the Bill. With these words I move that the Bill be read in Council."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I second the motion."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Mr. President, Sir, I find that the object of the hon. Member that brought in this amending Bill is to retain to the municipal councils the income they get at present from tolls levied from carriages and animals which come into the municipality from the mufassal. I quite realize the importance of such a step intended to preserve the financial equilibrium of the municipality. But I wish to point out that in the amendment that he wishes to carry, he unintentionally, perhaps, imposes some additional burden on the responsibilities of the municipalities. His amendment is this: for the word 'within' substitute the words 'by bona fide residents of'. Now, if this is carried, the result will be that if a resident in a municipality owns carriages outside the municipality and derives help within the municipality, he will be liable to be taxed by the municipality though his carriages and animals do not come into the municipality at all. I do not think he contemplated such a result and that is the reason why I stand here to point that out. Because, the amended section will be: 'If the chairman publishes a notification under section 80 that a tax shall be levied on carriages and animals, he shall levy the said tax by half-yearly instalments on carriages and animals which are kept or let out for hire by bona fide residents of the municipality, and are of the kinds specified in Schedule IV.' The meaning of this is if a resident within a municipality owns carriages outside the municipality, and if the carriages do not come into the municipality, the Chairman will have power to levy tolls on such carriages. I think, Sir, that is what the amendment comes to. I hope that sufficient care will be taken to see that people are not unnecessarily taxed. As regards the other matter, I quite agree that it is necessary to preserve the financial equilibrium; but in that anxiety let us not unnecessarily tax all persons who are not now liable to pay such tax."

\* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"Mr. President, there is one other matter which I should like to bring to the notice of the Council. Sometimes it happens that people are living outside the municipality on their own lands but they have to come into the municipality and in that case they have to pay the toll. Such cases do not come under the Act. I do not see why people who are paying taxes to the municipality, but living outside the municipal limits should be forced to pay tolls. It also happens that there are cases where people have to go into the municipalities almost every day for business and they are paying municipal tax also. They will be losing all the benefit if they have to pay toll. I speak subject to correction as I do not have a copy of the District Municipalities Act with me, I believe under the present Municipal Act people living within 3 to 5 miles of the municipality can be assessed to profession tax. They also may have to pay this toll. I do not see any reason why these people should not have the benefit of the licence. Whatever privileges are available should be available for all those who pay taxes to the municipality. That will only be just and fair to them and I hope that will be borne in mind by the Select Committee when they consider the matter."



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\*Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—“ It all depends on the opinion of the Select Committee as to how they will deal with the particular cases specified by the hon. Members in the course of their speeches. As the Act now stands, the keeping of a vehicle or an animal or the letting it out for hire, if that is within the municipality, then the tax is payable. It may be that the person who is the owner of the vehicle and the animal may live outside the city ; but he may keep the vehicle and the animal within the city and if it is kept there or let out for hire it is taxable under the Act as it stands. The other case put forward is that the person may be resident within the municipality but he may for purposes of his own keep outside the municipality his vehicle and animal in respect of which he ought not to pay the tax to the local authority. The question in each case will be considered by the Select Committee when the point comes before them. I understand that the suggestion of the hon. Member for Coimbatore is that even in cases of people who live outside the municipality and keep their vehicle and animal outside the municipality, by reason of the fact that they are in some way connected with the municipality, there must be exemption for them from paying the tolls every time they come into the city. I do not know if that is exactly the scope of the Bill. But it is a matter which the Select Committee can go into and I have no doubt that will be considered also. At present, as far as I understand, it only seeks to do this, viz., in cases of people living outside the city and maintaining a vehicle there, they ought not to be given the right of freely entering the city without paying the taxes. To that extent the Select Committee may look into it and I do not know if the particular point which my hon. Friend, the Member for Coimbatore, mentioned is within the scope of this Bill.”

\* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—“ Do I understand the hon. the Advocate-General to say that the question cannot be considered by the Select Committee at all or that it is a matter that the Select Committee should dispose of ?”

\* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—“ It is a matter left to the Select Committee. I suggested my prima facie impression on it. I do not say anything to shut out the Select Committee from considering the point.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ What I wish to say is this. The practical difficulties which both the hon. Mover and the hon. Member from Coimbatore have been trying to bring to the notice of the House are perhaps being felt in several of the municipalities. There are suburbs which are not within the limits of the municipality but whose residents have daily work in the municipality and they own carriages and animals. Under the present Act when they go out every day for their daily avocations they have to employ the vehicles and they have to pay the tolls. This is being felt as a great hardship by those who are in the suburbs and whose avocations bring them daily into the municipality. They have to pay a toll of As. 4 which comes  
12-15 p.m. to nearly Rs. 8 a month, and most of the earnings of these people are consumed in paying the toll. So, it is really a great hardship. This is a point worth considering. In some municipalities they are doing what is called compounding, that is, they take out licences from the municipality, though I have my own doubts whether they are so permitted to do. They take out a licence but live outside municipal limits. This sometimes causes serious friction between the toll-contractor and the



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municipal council. So this is really a question which the Select Committee would do well to address itself to. So far as the payment of tolls by these people is concerned, I think even the hon. the Mover of the Bill has agreed that it is a point to be considered. That is how I understood him. I do not think it is outside the scope of the Select Committee to go into the question. My hon. Friend from Coimbatore also had the same thing in his mind. I wish to know very much whether, in view of the remarks of the hon. the Advocate-General, this matter could not legitimately go before the Select Committee."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"Sir, in view of the difficulties pointed out by the hon. the Advocate-General, I think that we must pause before taking any definite step forward by way of amendments. This raises a question of principle relating to local taxation—it may be municipal council or it may be local board. The principle underlying this is whether in the case of vehicles lying outside municipal limits, tolls are to be levied according to the schedules provided in the Act. It will be remembered that the Act provides for the compounding of tolls. I really do not understand why the municipal council which has got the power to fix the rates for the purpose should not so fix the rates as to enable them to earn the required income. Why should we on this occasion amend the Act for the purpose of bringing those vehicles outside municipal limits into its purview? I think, Sir, that this Bill, which will have the effect of imposing additional burdens on those living outside the municipal limits, could not be accepted.

"Some difficulties have been pointed out and it was presumed that the Select Committee would go into them. Suppose the Chairman rules that they are not within the scope of the Committee. What will be the position? The Advocate-General has pointed out the difficulty, and it will be open to the Chairman of the Select Committee to rule amendments like those suggested by my friend from Coimbatore out of order. If that contingency should arise, we would be in a worse position than at present. I am not myself satisfied about the necessity for this amendment, because, according to the existing Municipal Act, there is power for the compounding of tolls in these cases and a reasonable rate can be prescribed by the municipalities. Therefore I think that this amendment need not be carried."

\* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Sir, the Bill that is being debated upon is not a Government Bill. It has been introduced as a private measure and the House has given leave for its introduction. No doubt there are the difficulties pointed out by members of this House. But all these points will be considered by the Select Committee and the House at the several stages of the Bill. If, as it is pointed out, there are changes to be made, the Chairman is bound to accept the decision of the majority."

The motion that the Bill be read in Council was put and carried.

The Secretary read the title of the Bill.

Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR :—"I now move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members :—

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government. | 6. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.           |
| 2. „ hon. the Advocate-General.                     | 7. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar |
| 3. Mr. P. L. Moore.                                 | 8. Khan Bahadur P. Khalifulla Sahib.     |
| 4. Mr. A. V. Bhanaji Rao.                           | 9. Mr. M. R. Setaratnam Ayyar.           |
| 5. „ K. S. Ponnuswami Pillai.                       | 10. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.       |
|   | 11. Myself.                              |



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Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ I second it.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I beg to propose the addition of Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar to the Select Committee.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I second it.”

Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR :—“ I have no objection.”

The House agreed to refer the Bill to the Select Committee.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I nominate the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government as the Chairman of the Committee.”

## VI

### THE TUTICORIN PORT TRUST ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.\*

\* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ I beg to introduce a Bill to amend the Tuticorin Port Trust Act, 1924, and move that it be read in Council.

“The object of the Bill is to give representation to the Indian Chamber of Commerce at Tuticorin on the Board Trust which was constituted under the Tuticorin Port Trust Act, 1924. The other day when I asked for leave to introduce the Bill I explained how the Indian Chamber of Commerce at Tuticorin was carried away by the words ‘Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce’ occurring in section 6 of the Act, how the members of the Chamber were under the impression that the words would cover their case also but how when the Government asked the European Chamber of Commerce to elect all the three members they came to know their position, how they petitioned and prayed to the Government that they should have representation also and how the Government replied that the words occurring in the section would refer to only one Chamber and that they have no standing under the Act. In view of the arguments put forward by the hon. the Finance Member then, I think I should give a brief history of the Chamber.

“The Chamber was started in 1913 as an association of traders to look after the interests of Indian trade at Tuticorin. In 1921, Sir P. Tyagaraya Chettiyar visited the place and the association of traders met him, and on his advice, the association was christened with the name of ‘The Indian Chamber of Commerce.’ So, Sir, the Indian Chamber of Commerce took a new life and a new turn in 1921 when Sir P. T. Chettiyar visited the place. I hope, Sir, every non-Brahman, whether he belongs to this side of the House or the other side, will support this measure; for however much one may differ in the matter of political opinions and political views from Sir P. T. Chettiyar, one will not be devoid of respect for the grand old man who brought into being the non-Brahman movement. Sir, a chamber started by such a great man should not go unrepresented, nor its representation delayed indefinitely. When I say that, I do not leave out of consideration the other hon. Members of the House. Sir, the question involved in this matter is not a question affecting one community or another, but it is a question affecting Indians as a whole. The Indian Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin, consists of members belonging to Brahman, non-Brahman, Muhammadan and Christian communities, and so, I hope I shall have the solid support of the whole House with regard to the introduction of this Bill.

\* Published in Part IV of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 4th November 1924.



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[Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar]

"Again, Sir, it may be said that it was brought to the notice of the House, at the time when the Bill was introduced, that there was no Chamber of Commerce at Tuticorin. But I may assure the House that the Chamber was in existence then. When I look into the reports in connexion with the original Bill, I find Sir Charles Todhunter saying at three places in three different ways about this chamber. In one place, he says 'There is at present no Indian Chamber of Commerce at Tuticorin.' In another place, he says 'Indian business interests have not yet organized themselves into a chamber of commerce'; and in a third place, he says 'I understand that negotiations are in progress for the establishment of an Indian Chamber of Commerce'. It seems to me that Government had some inkling of the existence of this chamber, but they did not want to recognize it. When such is the case, the hon. the Finance Member will go to the extent of saying that the Chamber was first thought of on 6th July 1924. Even assuming for argument's sake that the Chamber was first thought of on 6th July 1924, I must say that it has achieved much. It has got a reserve fund of Rs. 4,000 deposited in the Imperial Bank and it has got an annual income of Rs. 3,000. Hon. Members may have seen the appeal issued by the Indian Chamber of Commerce to every one of them. Again, Sir, the hon. the Finance Member remarked that the Indian Chamber claimed to have 106 members and he very much doubted whether there could be 106 persons to a very large extent interested in trade at Tuticorin. I must say that the Chamber has got 93 members, and I am only sorry that the hon. the Finance Member has got such a poor notion of the trade of Tuticorin. Tuticorin is one of the biggest trade marts in Southern India. There is nothing strange in such a place having as many as 93 or 106 persons to a very large extent interested in trade. I may say, Sir, that even the figure given by the hon. the Finance Member is not up to the mark. Perhaps the hon. the Finance Member has been carried away by the strength of the European Chamber at Tuticorin which consists of 5 or 6 members, most of whom are absentees from the place. Moreover, the hon. the Finance Member stated that he had no information about the status of the Chamber. So far as I know, it seems to me that Government made some investigation into the matter and the representative of the Indian Chamber gave all the information required by the Government. So, I must say the bulk of the trade at Tuticorin is in the hands of the Indian merchants and in the interests of the Indian trade it is quite necessary that the Chamber should have representation on the Board. It may be, Sir, that the amendment as it stands may not be quite satisfactory. Perhaps it is necessary that separate representation should be given to the European and the Indian Chamber of Commerce. The matter may be looked into in the select committee stage. Lastly, I must appeal to the House that this is not a party question on which the House may be divided. It is a question affecting the vital interests of Indian trade and as such I hope I shall have the unanimous support of the House."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—"I second the motion, Sir."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—"Sir, I wish to say a few words on this subject. The hon. Mover pointed out that at the time the Tuticorin Port Trust Act was discussed in the Select Committee it was stated that there was no Indian Chamber of Commerce. In fact, the hon. Mover points out now that this Indian Chamber came into

12-30 p.m.



[Mr. C. Gopala Menon]

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existence in 1913. In the Select Committee we had two members from Tuticorin, two hon. Members from this House and one expert member from Tuticorin. None of them told us that there was an Indian Chamber of Commerce at the time. Therefore the Chairman decided that two Indian members may be nominated to the Trust from the members carrying on the sea-borne trade of Tuticorin. That was how the Indian Chamber of Commerce was not included. Now that it has been brought to the notice of this House that a Chamber has been started, or that the old Chamber has been revived, the question for the consideration of the House is whether there is provision on the Board to give adequate representation to this Chamber. The Board, according to the Act, is to consist of not less than nine and not more than thirteen trustees. The number of members on the Board as at present constituted is only eleven, viz., one chairman, one vice-chairman—an Indian and a distinguished Member of this House—three representatives from the European Chamber of Commerce, two members from the Municipal Council, Tuticorin, etc. I was a member of the Select Committee on the Port Trust Bill. I pointed out to the Select Committee that it may not be possible that the two members of the Municipal Council would be merchants interested in the trade of Tuticorin. The Chairman then decided that two members should be nominated from among persons carrying on the export and import trade of Tuticorin. Now, there are four other nominated members which make the number of members on the Board eleven. This House can easily conceive, and the hon. Member in charge of the portfolio can see that the remaining two members may be returned by the Indian Chamber of Commerce. Of course, it should not take effect from this moment, because the whole of the Trust has been constituted already and they should remain in office for the next two years. By that time we shall be able to know how the Indian Chamber of Commerce works and then give them representation. With these few words I support the motion."

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—"Sir, on a former occasion I was unsuccessful in persuading the House that the Bill was unnecessary, unsuitable and premature and the House should not grant leave for its being introduced. On that occasion I had the support of the hon. Members of this House who come from Tinnevely. I take this opportunity of thanking them for their support and hope that they will continue to give me that support now and also that some of those who on the former occasion voted for permission to introduce the Bill will now understand that it is not yet time to amend an Act passed only an year ago and that the provisions in this particular Bill are unsuitable. I think it will be admitted that if there is any serious defect in the Act which calls for immediate remedy the people on the spot are most likely to know about it and it is not one of them who has brought forward this Bill. I would earnestly deprecate the rushing of legislation which I contend is not justified by any change in the circumstances since the Act was passed and which cannot take into account any experience of the working of the Act.

"The Act was intended to make provision for the conservancy and improvement of the Port of Tuticorin. In view of the large developments intended, it was necessary to give the representatives of the interests concerned much larger powers of taxation and expenditure than they possessed. A large sum of money was required for the development of the port and that



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[Mr. R. A. Graham]

money had to be raised by borrowing. There was no legally constituted body to which money could be lent and which could command the confidence of the public. For this purpose an Act was passed and the Port Trust Board was constituted.

"The interests concerned are primarily those of the persons and firms engaged in the sea-borne trade of Tuticorin. The Trust's revenue is derived almost entirely from fees collected from passengers, and goods imported or exported, entering or leaving the port by sea and the expenditure is for the purpose of improving the port and giving such facilities and advantages for shipping as will make the port an attractive centre for trade. As has been pointed out by my hon. Friend opposite, proper representation has been given to all the interests concerned. There was in existence a recognized body known as the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce, but it represents only European interests. I think the hon. Mover is mistaken in saying that the bulk of the trade is in the hands of Indians. My information is that the greater part of the trade is in the hands of the European traders."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—"What about import trade?"

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM:—"I have no detailed information, but I believe, taking the exports and imports together the amount of trade in the hands of the Europeans is considerably larger than that in the hands of the Indians. The details however are immaterial. The fact remains that a very large proportion of the trade is in the hands of the firms composing the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce, and that they are therefore entitled to a substantial representation of the Trust Board. If there had been a similar organization of Indians there is not the slightest doubt that due representation would have been given to them. But no such body could be found. Enquiries were made at the time when the Port Trust Bill was under preparation and nobody knew the existence of any such body. If I may remind the House the Bill was first introduced by Sir Charles Todhunter in November 1923. Before that he had made enquiries if there was any Indian Chamber of Commerce at Tuticorin. He was unable to find any and the reports from the local officers stated that there was none."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Was there any special enquiry?"

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM:—"There was a special enquiry."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—"By whom?"

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM:—"By the Collector. I understand and Mr. C. Gopala Menon has confirmed the impression—that the question was also raised in the Select Committee. The Committee included all the members from Tinnevely, but no member of the Select Committee knew of the existence of any Indian Chamber of Commerce there. Again as the hon. Mover has stated, on three separate occasions when the Bill was being discussed by the House, Sir Charles Todhunter pointedly stated that there was no Indian Chamber and on every occasion that statement passed without challenge. I think therefore there was very good reason for supposing that no such chamber existed."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have not read anything in the papers saying that



[Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu] [5th February 1925]

this body of Indian Chamber of Commerce consisting entirely of Indian merchants was opened by no less a personage than the hon. Member Sir Pitty Thyagaraya Chettiyar?"

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—"Sir, I have received a copy of an appeal from certain people in which it was stated that certain events took place in 1921. I am coming to that later on. Now the facts being what they were, it was necessary to devise means to provide for the representation of Indian trade on the Trust Board and the means adopted are to be found in sections 5 and 6 of the Act. Section 5 says :

'The Board shall consist of such number of trustees, not being less than nine or more than thirteen including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, as the Local Government may notify.'

'Not less than one-third of the number of trustees shall be Indians of whom two shall be persons engaged in sea-borne trade and not more than four shall be Government officials.'

"Section 6 runs :

'The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be appointed by the Local Government, provided one of them at least shall be an Indian. Of the remaining trustees, three shall be elected by the members for the time being of the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce and two by the members for the time being of the Tuticorin Municipal Council at a meeting of the Chamber or Council held in accordance with the rules in force. The remaining trustees shall be appointed by the Local Government with due regard for the provisions contained in sub-section 2 of section 5.'

"Now, Sir, there is no doubt that if there had been an Indian Chamber of Commerce in existence this section would have been quite different.

"The hon. Mover's Bill does not alter section 5. It proposes to alter section 6(1) so as to run :

'The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be appointed by the Local Government provided one of them at least shall be an Indian. Of the remaining trustees, three shall be elected by all the members for the time being of any Chamber or Chambers of Commerce at Tuticorin.'

"He tells us that the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce consists of six or seven people. I do not know the exact number."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I have seen their report."

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—"I accept the hon. Member's figures as correct. He also told us that the Indian Chamber of Commerce consists of 93 members. The first result of his amendment therefore would be that the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce would be entirely deprived of representation. It is hardly necessary to say any more to show that the exact provisions in this Amending Bill are unsuitable. The hon. Mover, I gather, however is not insistent on keeping to these exact provisions and he will be satisfied provided that the representation of Indian trade is made by election by the Indian Chamber of Commerce. If there was an active and permanent Indian Chamber of Commerce, this would be perfectly a reasonable request. At the time of the passing of the Act, Sir Charles Todhunter gave an assurance that if an Indian Chamber of Commerce was organized and showed itself to be a really responsible and a representative body, Government themselves would introduce a Bill to amend the Act. I cannot agree however that a body which suddenly sprang into existence last July can within a few months of its birth claim to be a permanent representative of Indian trade or that its formation a few months ago will justify us in hurrying on an amendment of the Act.

"I now come to the claim that it is not a new body. I have already reminded the Council of the facts which were put forward before this



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[Mr. R. A. Graham]

Council and the Select Committee when this Act was on the anvil. The contention of the hon. Mover is that this body took shape in the year 1913 and he gave us a history of the Indian Chamber of Commerce. I think it might be amplified to some extent from the appeal to which he referred and copies of which have, I believe, been distributed to all the hon. Members. In that appeal we are told that the merchants of Tuticorin formed themselves into an association in 1913 which worked actively till 1916. We have not been told what it did during that period but anyhow after that, in the words of the appeal 'it passed out of public view.' An attempt was made to resuscitate it in 1921, when the stimulating activity of Sir P. Tiyagaraya Chetti was applied to the purpose. As soon, however, as his presence was withdrawn the stimulus must have ceased to act and the Chamber is represented as having 'devoted itself to silent work.' I do not know whether it has any record of the work done but if it really was engaged on the activities mentioned in the appeal—surveying, collecting commercial information, making representations to the authorities and securing facilities of communication in the matter of trade, etc.—if it had any record of having been engaged on these activities it appears extraordinary that until last July no one knew of its existence. In the absence of any record it seems impossible to admit that the Indian Chamber of Commerce has had any continued existence or has existed for more than seven months. And if I may make a suggestion it would be wiser if the Chamber openly professed to be an entirely new concern. Otherwise its record hardly gives it a claim to be regarded as a live and permanent body, capable of representing Indian trade. I would further advise that the net of membership should not be cast too wide. I do not think I have ever denied that there may be 106 persons in Tuticorin engaged in trade. What I do deny is that there are anything like so many with an appreciable interest in sea-borne trade, and I still have reason to suppose that a considerable number of the persons included in the membership have little or no interest in sea borne trade. However, my main contention is that this body has not yet had time to show that it is a permanent and active body even in the three months that have elapsed, since the matter was under discussion before. If the Indian Chamber of Commerce claims to be an active and a representative body, it should take us more into its confidence and let the public know what it is doing and what its deliberations are. I do not go so far as to say that it should publish the minutes of its meetings, but we should know something about it, and I think in particular that it might communicate more freely with the Government and convince the Government that it is a permanent and representative body. Under section 9 of the existing Act the term of the office of the trustees is two years, and it would not be unreasonable to ask that a newly constituted body should work for two years before being given direct representation on the Trust. This body has not yet worked even for one year, but I think I may say that if it works for one year and its work shows that it deserves and receives the confidence of the Indian traders in Tuticorin I am sure that Government will be ready to bring in a Bill of their own. This, as I have already explained, must mean an entire recasting of sections 5 and 6 of the Act.

"I notice that one of the provisions of the hon. Mover's amendment is to give his alterations retrospective effect from the date of the commencement of the original Act. 'The existing trustees' term of office lasts for two years however and I do not think that the hon. Mover seriously means that we should turn them out. If any amending Bill is to be passed it should take



[Mr. R. A. Graham]

[5th February 1925]

effect on the expiry of the term of office of the existing trustees and it is possible that by that time we shall be able to see whether there are any other defects in the Act which need amendment. I would therefore appeal to the hon. Mover to withdraw his Bill on the assurance that if the Indian Chamber of Commerce shows signs of vitality, the Government themselves will introduce a Bill and thus carry out his intention by about, say, next October or November."

The motion that leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Tuticorin Port Trust Act, 1924, was put to the House and declared carried. On a poll being demanded by the hon. Mr. R. A. Graham, the House divided thus:—

*Ayes.*

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|---|--|
| 1. Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar.         | 21. Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.                       |
| 2. " P. N. Marthandam Pillai.             | 22. Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao.                           |
| 3. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju.   | 23. Mr. G. Rameswara Rao.                            |
| 4. Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi.                | 24. Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo.                |
| 5. Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu. | 25. Mr. M. Seetayya.                                 |
| 6. " C. Natesa Mudaliyar.                 | 26. " J. A. Saldanha.                                |
| 7. " T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar.           | 27. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.                         |
| 8. Mr. K. Uppi Sahib.                     | 28. " V. C. Vellingiri Gounder.                      |
| 9. " P. C. Venkatapadhiraju.              | 29. " Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar.                  |
| 10. Dr. P. Subbarayan.                    | 30. " Venkatarama Ayyar alias Pantulu Ayyar.         |
| 11. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.          | 31. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.                  |
| 12. " S. Satyamurti.                      | 32. " B. Venkataratnam.                              |
| 13. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.           | 33. Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu.         |
| 14. " P. Anjaneyulu.                      | 34. Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu Garu. |
| 15. Sriman Biewanath Das Mahasayo.        | 35. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimbachariu.               |
| 16. Mr. A. Chidambaram Nadar.             | 36. Mr. Ghose Mian Sahib.                            |
| 17. " M. Gangaraju.                       | 37. " Qadir Mohidin Sahib.                           |
| 18. " C. Gopala Menon.                    | 38. " Abdul Wahab Sahib.                             |
| 19. " K. Koti Reddi.                      | 39. Khan Bahadur P. Khalifullah Sahib.               |
| 20. " C. Maruthavanam Pillai.             |  |

*Noes.*

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| 1. The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp.                | 22. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan.                   |
| 2. " Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.              | 23. Mr. L. C. Guruswami.                       |
| 3. " the Raja of Panagal.                    | 24. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.     |
| 4. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.            | 25. Mr. B. Mahabala Hegde.                     |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivag-nanam Pillai. | 26. " K. Raghuchandra Ballal.                  |
| 6. " Mr. R. A. Graham.                       | 27. " J. Ruppaswami.                           |
| 7. " " N. E. Marjoribanks.                   | 28. " A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.                  |
| 8. Mr. R. W. Davies.                         | 29. " C. Muttayya Mudaliyar.                   |
| 9. " G. F. Paddison.                         | 30. Hony.-Lieut. Madurai.                      |
| 10. " E. W. Legh.                            | 31. Mr. K. S. Ponnuswami Pillai.               |
| 11. " P. L. Moore.                           | 32. " G. Premayya.                             |
| 12. " T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar.           | 33. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu.        |
| 13. " Abdulla Ghatala Sahib.                 | 34. Mr. P. S. Rajappa.                         |
| 14. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar.                 | 35. " B. Obalesappa.                           |
| 15. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai.        | 36. Rao Bahadur P. Raman.                      |
| 16. Mr. J. A. Davis.                         | 37. Mr. J. D. Samuel.                          |
| 17. " D. Appavu Chettiyar.                   | 38. " K. Sarabha Reddi.                        |
| 18. " H. B. Ari Gowder.                      | 39. " K. Sitarama Reddi.                       |
| 19. " A. V. Bhanoji Rao.                     | 40. " R. Srinivasan.                           |
| 20. " N. Devendrudu.                         | 41. " P. V. S. Sundaramurti.                   |
| 21. Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez.              | 42. Diwan Bahadur W. Vijayaraghava Mudali-yar. |

*Neutral.*

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|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi.       | 3. Mr. K. Sarvarayudu. |
| 2. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai. | 4. " R. Veerian.       |

39 members voted for the motion, 42 against, and 4 stood neutral.  
The motion was lost.



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VII

THE MADRAS CITY TENANTS' PROTECTION ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"According to Standing Order 37, no speech on the motion to introduce a Bill is necessary unless it is opposed. I have therefore to ascertain whether the motion to introduce this Bill is opposed. (After a pause.) Since no one has opposed the motion, the hon. Member Mr Guruswami may move his motion without any speech."

Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras City Tenants' Protection Act, 1922."

Mr. R. SRINIVASAN:—"I second it."

The motion was put to the House and carried.

VIII

THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES AND LOCAL BOARDS ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I wish to know whether this motion is going to be opposed."

\*The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I do not wish to oppose the introduction of the Bill at this stage. I have my objection to raise at the next stage of the Bill."

Mr. VENKATARAMA AYYAR alias PANTULU AYYAR:—"I beg to move that leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"I second it."

The motion was put to the House and carried. Leave was given to introduce the Bill.

IX

MOTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

CONDUCT OF PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL BODIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE VERNACULARS.

Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL, moved :

"That this Council recommends to the Government that they may be pleased to make proper arrangements to conduct, in the respective vernaculars of the districts concerned, all, the proceedings of district and taluk boards and municipal councils in the Madras Presidency."

In doing so, he said :—

"ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ, ಅಯ್ಯಾ—

'ಮದ್ರಾಸ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ತಾಲೂಕು ಬೋರ್ಡುಗಳ - ವ - ಮುನ್ಸಿಪಲ್ ಸಭೆಗಳ ಯಾವತ್ತು ನಡವಳಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು, ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳ ಆಯಾ ಯ ದೇಶಭಾಷೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಡಿಸಲಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ದಯವಿಟ್ಟು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿ ಈ ಸಭೆಯು ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರಿಗೆ ಫಾರಸು ಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ.'

"ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಜುನಾವಣೆ ಕ್ರಮಗಳು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಚಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ಬಂದಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ್ ಭಾಷೆಯು ಸರಿಯಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ದ ಭೂಮಾಲಿಕರು ಮತ್ತು ವರ್ತಕರು - ವ - ಹಿಂದೆ ಒಂದು ಜಾತಿ ವರ್ಗದವರು ಸದರಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸದಸ್ಯರಾಗಿ ಬರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಇಂತಹವರು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ಯ ಸೂತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಯಬೇಕಾದರೆ ದೇಶಭಾಷೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಸಭಾಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಜರಗಿಸುವುದು ಅತಿ ಅಗತ್ಯ.



[Mr. K. Raghuchandra Ballal] [5th February 1925]

“ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್ - ವೆ . ತಾಲೂಕು ಬೋರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳ ಮೊಬರನಾಗಿ ನಾನು ಅನುಭವಿಸಿದ ಗತ ಕುಮಾರು 8 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ನನ್ನ ಅನುಭವದಲ್ಲಿ ತಕ್ಕಷ್ಟು ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ್ ಭಾಷಾ ಪರಿಚಯ ಇಲ್ಲದ ನನಗೆ ಆ ಭಾಷಾ ಪರಿಚಯದ ನನ್ನ ಜತೆ ಮೊಬರರ ಹಂಗಿಗೆ ಈಡಾಗಬೇಕಾದ ಸಂದರ್ಭ ವದಗಿತ್ತು. ಇನ್ನೂ ಕೆಲವರು ಅಂತಹ ಅನಂದರ್ಭಗಳಿಗೆ ವಳಗಾಗದೆ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ತೋರಿಸದೆ ಅವರ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯತಃ ತೋರಿಸಲಿಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದು ಶೋಚನೀಯವಾದ ವಿಷಯವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

“ಸದರಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ನಡವಳಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ್ ಭಾಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ನಡಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ಆಗಲಿ ಯಾವ ಭಾಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡಿಸಬೇಕೆಂತಾಗಲಿ ಲೋಕಲ್ ಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮುನ್ಸಿಪಲ್ ಕಾನೂನುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಯಮವಿಲ್ಲ.

“ನಂಮ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಬೋರ್ಡಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಮಾರು ಕಾಲಂಕದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಜಾಸ್ತಿ ಮೆಂಬರರಿಗೆ ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ್ ಭಾಷೆ ಗೊತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ಯಾವತ್ತು ಮೆಂಬರರಿಗೆ ಆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ದೇಶಭಾಷೆಗಳ ಪೂರ್ಣಜ್ಞಾನವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಸದ್ಯವಾಗಲೂ ಇತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾದವುಗಳಂತೆ ನಾನು ಗ್ರಹಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

“ಕಳೆದ ಜಾಲಾ ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಧುರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್. ಬಿ. ದೇಶಿಕಾಚಾರ್ಯರ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜರಗಿದ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ವಂಗಡದ ಲೋಕಲ್ ಬೋರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳ ಮಹಾಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಾನು ಈಗ ಮುಂದಿಟ್ಟ ಶರಾವಿನ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಕುರಿತು ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಒಂದು ಶರಾವು ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡೋಣವಾಗಿದೆ. ಆ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಜರಿದ್ದ ಅನೇಕ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸ್ನೇಹಿತರು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗ ಇರುವರು. ನಾನು ತಂದ ಶರಾವಿನ ಬಾಬಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಗಳು ಇರಲಿಕ್ಕೆ ಅನ್ವದವಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದನ್ನು ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತಂದರೆ ಸರಕಾರವುಕ್ಕೆ ಆಗಲಿ ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ಯ ಪಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಆಗಲಿ ಯಾವ ತರಹದ ಅನಾನುಕೂಲತೆ - ಯಾವ ತೊಂದರೆ ಆಗುವರೆ ಕಾರಣ ತೋರುವ ವಿಲ್ಲ.

“ಲೋಕಲ್ ಬೋರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಮುನ್ಸಿಪಲ್ ಸಭೆಗಳು ಜನರನ್ನು ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ತರಬೇತು ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳೆಂತ ನನ್ನ ಅಭಿಮತ.

“ಆ ವಿನೆಕಾ, ಸದರಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುವ ವಿಷಯಗಳು ಮತದಾರರ (ವೋಟರರ) ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಬೇಕಾದ್ದ ರಕ್ತಂತಲೂ ಮತದಾರರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಬೇಕಾದ್ದ ಅಧಿಕ ಅವಶ್ಯಕ.

“ಮತದಾರರಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವರು ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ್ ಭಾಷಾ ಜ್ಞಾನ ರಹಿತರು. ಈ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಸಂಗತಿಗಳು ಜಿನ್ನಾಗೆ ಆಲೋಚಿಸಿದರೆ ಈ ಬಹುಮಾನವಟ್ಟು ನಿಲಯದ ನನ್ನ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸ್ನೇಹಿತರು ನನ್ನ ಶರಾವಿಗೆ ಪೂರ್ಣ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ಕೊಡದೆ ಇರಲಾರರೆಂತ ನನಗೆ ತುಂಬಾ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಇದೆ.”

1-15 p.m. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I speak in Kanarese, Sir ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ You would require permission from the Chair to speak in any other language except English.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I can speak Kanarese, Sir ? ”

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—“ May I beg to know if the Government Bench will answer in Kanarese ? ”

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The rule, I think, is that the Chair may permit any Member who is not fluent in English to express himself in the vernacular. Members of the Treasury Bench would have to get permission from the Chair to speak in any vernacular, which permission would be given only on the assurance that they are not fluent in English (laughter).”

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—“ May I beg to point out that the hon. the Mover may not understand English ? How would you provide for his knowing or understanding the reply ? ”



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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" We have got to carry out the rule."

\* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I request your permission to speak in Kanarese, so that the Mover may know what I am going to say ? "

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Rule 14 of the Legislative Council Rules says that the business of the Council shall be transacted in English, but any Member who is not fluent in English may address the Council in any recognized vernacular of the province, provided that the President may call on any member to speak in any language in which he is known to be proficient. I presume from the fact that the hon. Member, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, offers to speak in Kanarese that he is proficient in that language. Nevertheless for the convenience of the majority of the Members of the Council, I would call upon him to address in English."

\* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to second the proposition moved by Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal. I do not think there can be any two opinions as to the advisability of having the proceedings of district boards and municipalities conducted in the local vernaculars. Speaking for my own district, we have some taluk board presidents who know only the vernacular and the present practice of carrying on the correspondence and maintaining the registers and all that kind of thing in English is apt to make some of the presidents tools in the hands of their clerks. To avoid such a contingency it seems to me extremely desirable that the correspondence in the local offices should be conducted in the vernaculars. At the same time I am not quite clear whether under the existing rules the presidents have not got the power to effect this change if they are so minded. If they have that power, then obviously the proposition now before the House would not be needed, because it would be inviting the Government to interfere in local matters which we should be the last to desire. So I formally second the proposition."

\* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, I confess I was not able to follow up the speech of the hon. the Mover but I could understand this much, that he wants that the proceedings of the local bodies should be conducted in the vernaculars of the districts. I am afraid, Sir, that the hon. the Mover is not aware of the fact that as early as 1921 there was a Government Order issued instructing the local bodies that they could conduct their proceedings either in English or in the vernacular of the district. I do not quite see what arrangement my hon. Friend from South Kanara wishes that the Government should make. If it is mere permission to conduct proceedings in vernaculars, Government have already given that permission and to my knowledge most of the local bodies do conduct their proceedings in their vernaculars. Therefore, Sir, I see that there is no necessity for moving this resolution. With this information I suppose my hon. Friend will withdraw his resolution."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask for some information, as to whether the bill registers for example are printed in diglott so that the presidents who know only the vernaculars may fill up those registers by reference to the vernacular headings in them ? "

\* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" But I understand that this resolution refers not to headings of registers but to proceedings of local bodies."



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\* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Under instructions given by the Government they can keep the minutes of proceedings either in English or in their own vernaculars."

Mr. P. L. MOORE :—" Sir, I may, for the information of the Council, read the order to which the hon. the Minister has referred in his speech, so that hon. Members may know exactly what it is. It is G.O. No. 1423, L. & M., dated 23rd July 1921, and runs as follows :

' Proceedings of meetings of local boards and municipal councils may be conducted and the minutes recorded either in English or in the officially recognized vernacular for the local area. An English translation should, however, be appended to each resolution when recorded in the vernacular.

' Correspondence with the Government and with heads of departments in the district and elsewhere must be carried on and the main accounts maintained in English.'

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, in supporting this resolution I wish to point out what the term 'proper arrangements' means here. It is not merely allowing discretion to the district boards to choose either English or the vernacular, not merely to urge that upon them, but to direct that the language to be used should as a rule be the vernacular of the district."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I point out, Sir, that they do conduct their proceedings in the vernaculars of their districts?"

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I am not quite sure that that is the case in Mangalore. In Kanara, the complaint, so far as I know, is that the proceedings are conducted in English."

Khan Bahadur HAJI ABDULLA HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur :—" The proceedings of the district board and taluk boards are conducted there in Kanarese, and even the agenda papers are written in Kanarese."

\* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" The recording of proceedings?"

\* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" The proceedings are conducted in English so far as I know. The agenda papers are printed in English so far as I know in the *South Kanara Gazette*. What is wanted is that the proceedings of the meetings should be conducted in the vernaculars and recorded in the vernaculars. The correspondence with other boards should also be conducted in the vernaculars. If there is no such obligation imposed on the district boards and taluk boards now, it should be imposed, I think, by legislation when the Bill is next amended. In Kanara, of course, there may be difficulties on account of the languages being somewhat different. There is a linguistic confusion in South Kanara. There different languages are spoken, but the official vernacular taught in the schools and known by all the people concerned is Kanarese. So what is required is that not only the agenda, etc., but all the proceedings, records and registers should be kept in Kanarese. With these few words, I strongly commend this resolution for the adoption of this Council."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" I am very sorry I cannot agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha, in expressing the opinion that the Government should interfere and make it obligatory on the local bodies to do this thing or that. No one is opposed to the principle embodied in this resolution. Everyone is agreed that as far as possible all the correspondence should be in the vernacular and, as suggested by my hon. Friend from



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Bellary, even the registers and every other thing should be maintained in the vernacular. We are all agreed that this should be done so far as it is possible. But that we should on this occasion take the opportunity to request the Government and ask them to interfere with the ordinary work of local bodies and issue directions to them to do this thing or that thing is, I think, very wrong. For these reasons I suggest that we should, that is, those who are connected with the local bodies should, as far as possible, encourage the conduct of proceedings and maintenance of records and registers in the vernaculars. We accept the principle, but we should not make a recommendation to the Government asking them to interfere with the conduct of affairs in the local bodies. Therefore I would request the hon. Mover to withdraw his resolution."

Mr. B. VENKATARATNAM (in Telugu):—"The Government order regarding the conduct of proceedings in the vernaculars has been read to us. The difficulty comes in the case of correspondence between the Government and the local bodies. The non-English knowing presidents of local bodies have to obtain translations of English correspondence into the vernacular, and the clerks will again have to translate the vernacular replies of the presidents into English. I think that is the meaning of the 'arrangements' said to have been made already by Government. If the Government make arrangements to conduct the proceedings, etc., in the vernacular only, that would be better."

Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL (in Kanarese):—"I request permission to withdraw my resolution, Sir."

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

The House then (1-25 p.m.) adjourned for lunch.

#### After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

##### SUPPLY OF MANURE LEAVES TO RYOTS.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move:

*'That this Council recommends to the Government that manure leaves be given free to the ryots from the reserves under the management of village forest panchayats and from the other forests at a seigniorage of six annas per cart-load.'*

\*"As I understand, Sir, there is to be an amendment to this resolution I shall be brief in my remarks. Mr. President, Sir, in a province where full 80 per cent of the people are helplessly dependent upon agriculture the resolution for which I am responsible does not require any lengthy speech from me to commend itself to the acceptance of this House. Sir, if agriculture is the one staple industry of the country, it goes without saying that next only to irrigation water in importance is manure and it is common knowledge that of the very large variety of manures available to the ryot green manure comes in as the most handy, the most useful and the most indispensable from the ryot's point of view. Moreover, Sir, for ages past the Indian ryot has counted upon the adequate and free supply of green manure leaves as a right to which he is entitled from the Sirkar. Even in



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- (b) who the delinquents are so far as present investigations go ;
- (c) what are all the steps taken to book the offenders and to recover the sums misappropriated ;
- (d) whether investigation is complete in all the cases and if not, the cases still pending investigation ;
- (e) who was in charge of the investigation and who is in charge now, whether it is departmental officers or the police ;
- (f) what is the amount embezzled in each case and what is the amount recovered in each case and whether the balance is irrecoverable ; and
- (g) whether any of the persons were put before the criminal courts and with what result ?

A.—The question does not state the year or years in respect of which the particulars are required. The attention of the hon. Member is however invited to the following paragraphs in the consolidated audit reports of municipalities and local boards for the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24 :—

- (1) Paragraph 11 in Part I and paragraph 4 in Part II of the report for 1921-22 recorded in G.O. No. 487, Finance, dated 31st May 1923, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.
- (2) Paragraphs 37 to 39 and 62 and 63 of the report for 1922-23 recorded in G.O. No. 2769, L. & M., dated the 4th October 1924 (placed on the Editors' Table).
- (3) Paragraphs 35 and 73 of the report for 1923-24 (extracts appended).

Such particulars of the defalcations as are worth mentioning are furnished in the paragraphs referred to above.

Complete information in each case on all the points referred to in the question is not available.

*Village roads in the Tirukkoyilur taluk.*

150 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any new village roads have been built in the Tirukkoyilur taluk of the South Arcot district in the year 1924-25 ;
- (b) whether any petitions have been received by the district authorities from certain Christian villages of Eraiyur in the Tirukkoyilur taluk of the South Arcot district in October of last year for the building of a road in their neighbourhood ; and
- (c) what action the district authorities have taken in the matter ?

A.—The Government have no information.

*District Retrenchment Committee for Bellary.*

151 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government appointed a District Retrenchment Committee for the district of Bellary to consider the financial position of the 'local boards' in the district ;



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Government think would be beneficial to him as well as to the Forest Department. It is also said that the cutting of the forests makes the forests deteriorate. But if the common knowledge of the ryot counts for anything, the ryots believe, and I think they believe rightly, that the forests have deteriorated during the last six or seven years during which this restriction has been working. Then, again, there is the stock argument that there are not enough men in the department to watch the forests. I would rather ask the House not to believe it at once. Is it argued that during the last six or seven years the personnel of the Forest Department has undergone considerable diminution? But we have not been asked to vote anything less for the Forest Department. With its large and increasing army of watchers, guards and rangers, if the Government cannot teach the ryot prudence and moderation, then why should we vote the money for that department? We can as well abolish the department. Then, as regards the denudation and the deterioration, I believe it is common knowledge that the periodical clearing of undergrowth, shrubs and creepers which keep down and prevent the healthy growth of more useful plants and which afford shelter to wild beasts and boars which endanger the lives and crops of the ryots, helps the growth of the forest.

“Except this, I do not find any other advantage in allowing the forest to  
2-45 p.m. grow in its primeval condition without any periodical cutting away of unnecessary growth. Sir, moreover, it is common knowledge that such periodical cutting away of all rank vegetation promotes the better growth of forests. Being alive to the conditions in my district of North Arcot where with the river Palar getting drier every year and the irrigation sources getting silted up and neglected for years—I may add, in some cases for 25 years, for 30 years and for 50 years and in one case for 70 years—I think the only chance for the ryot is to get a supply of manure leaves at a very cheap cost. I fight for these manure leaves for this reason. Because, very recently, instances have come to my notice of the officers of the Agricultural Department going about on tours and asking the ryot to use the manures prepared and sold by a particular European firm of manure manufacturers in Southern India. I would ask those over-zealous officers whether our ryots are in a position to use these expensive manures, some of which may suit or may not suit particular crops, and whether we can make it more and more difficult for our ryots to use the one handy manure to which they are quite accustomed and which suits every crop and every land. I may also tell the Government that the time has come when they should not treat the ryots with the scant courtesy with which they have been treated all along. Sir, the conscience of the people has been awakened, and already murmurs of discontent are heard in the villages, that the highly paid officers of the Agricultural Department are there to prevent the ryots from having their adequate supplies of manure leaves so that the products of those European firms may be sold more and more. Already this murmur is heard. It is the duty of Government to see that no chance is given for such a belief to gain ground. Sir, as I said already, at the rate at which the Government sell their forest manure, namely, Rs. 2 per cart load, the ryot cannot afford to purchase it. For, for quarter of an acre he requires at least two cart loads and what with carting and removing them, he will have to spend about Rs. 12 on the whole, and we can understand how he can afford to make an outlay of Rs. 12 on manure alone.”



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The hon Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"On an acre?"

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"One quarter of an acre, Sir. That is my calculation. Sir, this problem, while it affects the cultivators in the whole of Southern India without exception, affects more seriously in the case of Salem and North Arcot districts—as I said already and I crave the indulgence of the House for repeating it—where this hampering process has taken place recently to a very alarming extent. I recently visited some villages where I found that a major portion of the population has left the village, and everybody knows that all the cheap labour for the Kolar Gold Fields is recruited from North Arcot. And for this reason, Sir, I appeal to the Government that when they have got the right of periodically raising the assessment they should see that the ryot has got some life left in him to pay the periodical Government assessment. Sir, it is a matter on which I should like to dwell at very great length. I am sure every one in this House will endorse the lines on which I have attempted to speak to-day on behalf of the poor ryot and I hope to have the support of all parts of this House in commending this resolution to the indulgent ears of the Government."

Diwan Bahadur W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR:—"I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution of my hon. Friend, Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar. I think I need hardly add anything more to what he said, yet I may perhaps make a few remarks. In the first place, I must add my testimony to the statement that he made that there are one or two grievances in the country against the forest policy of the Government, that the forest policy does not seem to be consistent and continuous. The policy of allowing green manure to be removed has been subject to much change from time to time and it does not seem to be evolved in the interests of either the ryots or the condition of the forests. Sometimes, green manure is allowed to be removed by the ryot on payment of some money and at other times it is completely stopped; and while the residents of a village in a certain district are allowed to take green manure from the forest, in the very neighbouring district the thing is completely prohibited. In the same district sometimes the ryots are allowed to take green manure and at other times they are not allowed. These changes do not seem to be necessitated either on account of the growth of forests or on account of the seasonal conditions prevailing in the district. When the forests are full of green leaves the ryots are not allowed to take them, but they are allowed to stand on the trees and wither away. I think also the question of denudation of forests does not arise because allowing people to take the green leaves cannot denude the forest. But the forest will be denuded only if the timber is cut away; and if the officers of the department are there to take care that the timber is not cut away by the people who are allowed to remove the leaves, there is no fear."

"My hon. Friend the Mover said that the forest menials might be abolished rather than have so much trouble and the forests may be administered by the ryot. I think, Sir, that will be a very good alternative. For, even if the rules prohibit green manure being allowed to be taken away, the Government will not be able to preserve the leaves on the trees. There must be a great deal of stealthy removal yielding a very large revenue to the menial staff. I think there is some truth in the plea put forward by the Government that it is very difficult to guard these forests from being denuded



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by the trees being cut away. But if that is difficult, the difficulty of preventing leaves being stolen away must be still greater, and I think, Sir, that such a course of total prohibition only results in putting some more money in the pockets of the petty forest officials. So, Sir, it will be a much better policy for the Government to allow the ryots to take away the green leaves for manure than let loose an army of low-paid menials to prey on the country. Otherwise, I think the Government will be responsible for the corruption over which we are unable to exercise proper control. I think, therefore, that, all things considered, the policy of allowing these poor ryots to take green manure will be the proper one.

"I must also say a word with regard to the remark that fell from my hon. Friend the Mover about the attempts on the part of the Agricultural Department to popularise scientific manure. I have also heard from many people the same remark that these attempts on the part of the subordinates of the Agricultural Department to recommend scientific manure and artificial manure prepared by private firms have at bottom the idea on the part of the Government to try and secure custom for the English firms in the trade. That it is no doubt a mistaken idea I am prepared to grant. I am also anxious that these scientific manures ought to be recommended and that people should take to them in greater numbers than at present. But so long as you go on recommending scientific manure and at the same time preventing people from taking green leaves, people are likely to fall into an error of thinking that the Government want to push the sales of these scientific manures manufactured by the English firms and that to help them the Government is shutting out by all possible means the chances of people getting green manure. Green leaf manure by itself will not suffice to improve agriculture, and if you want to impress on the people the absolute necessity of improving agriculture by having recourse to scientific manure, I think it is necessary to take away this ban on green manure and at the same time recommend to them the use of those artificial manures. Therefore, Sir, in the interest of this very laudable attempt on the part of the Government in the Agricultural Department to recommend to the people to take to scientific manure, this ban on leaf manure must be removed. I therefore very strongly commend to this House the acceptance of this resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, the resolution as it stands presents, to my mind, certain difficulties. The resolution says that manure leaves should be permitted to be taken free by the ryots from the reserves under the management of village forest panchayats. Now, these panchayats have been given a certain control over the forests and they are also given power to impose such terms as they may think necessary for the removal of these manures. I wish that we did nothing here to fetter their discretion in this matter. (The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp: 'Hear, hear'.) It may be that they are willing to allow the ryots to take away green leaves from the forests without any charge, or on payment of a small fee, or they regulate the supply in a particular way saying that each pattadar might have so much according to his requirements. It is for that reason I do

3 p.m. not want that this Council should lay down a specific rule that under no circumstances whatever the forest panchayats should refuse permission to ryots to remove manure leaves from these forests. So, Sir, with your permission, I would move an amendment



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for the omission of the word 'free' and for the insertion of the words 'on such conditions as they may prescribe and on a seigniorage, if any, not exceeding six annas per cart load.' In that case the resolution will read as follows :

'That this Council recommends to the Government that manure leaves be given to the ryots from the reserves under the management of village forest panchayats on such conditions as they may prescribe and at a seigniorage, if any, not exceeding six annas per cart load, and from the other forests at a seigniorage of six annas per cart load.'

"That, I think, would meet the difficulties I apprehend from a literal interpretation of the resolution."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—"I second the amendment."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP (on being called on by the President):—"My object was, as a matter of fact, to make a suggestion which might lead to an alteration in the wording of the motion by means of an amendment and I think it is hardly worth while doing it now that an amendment has been formally moved and seconded."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May we here know, Sir, what the hon. Member has just spoken? We did not hear a word of what he said."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Would the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp kindly repeat what he has just now said?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"My remarks were addressed to you, Mr. President, and if my hon. Friend wants to hear me, it would be better if he comes to the front. My intervention at that particular moment was with a view to make a suggestion for an amendment. But as the proposal has already been seconded, I said there was no need for saying anything just at present."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think it would probably be better if the discussion proceeded on both the resolution and the amendment. But, as usual, the House will vote on the amendment first."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I be permitted to say that I accept the amendment?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member who moved the resolution has accepted the amendment so that the motion under consideration will be the motion as amended, which reads as follows :

'That this Council recommends to the Government that manure leaves be given to the ryots from the reserves under the management of the village forest panchayats on such conditions as they may prescribe and at a seigniorage, if any, not exceeding six annas per cart load, and from the other forests at a seigniorage of six annas per cart load.'

"The discussion will now proceed on this motion."

Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu supported the motion (in Tamil).

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, it seems to me that the resolution in its present amended form is least open to objection. So far as it has gone, three hon. Members have spoken in support of it and they all hail from the North Arcot district. In the course of their speeches they gave us a very graphic description of the state of things prevailing in the North Arcot district in this matter. What applies to North Arcot applies with equal force to the conditions in the South Arcot district and to other districts also similarly situated. There is much force in what the hon. Mover has said, viz., that there is no fear of the ryots denuding the



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forests. It is not at all likely that they will so far forget themselves as to embark on anything which in the long run will only work to their harm and the ryot is the last person who will dream of killing the goose that lays the golden egg. Manure leaves are largely required by the agriculturists. I am not oblivious of the fact that certain well-placed persons have their eye always on bone and guano manures and it is not possible for all classes of people to buy them. There are really numerous instances where petty landholders have to depend very largely upon green leaves for manure. To such of them this resolution will have the beneficial effect of reducing the prices by about 75 per cent. In this way it would be quite welcome to them. The present average rate is about Rs. 2 and that is a very very high price for them to pay. So far as the resolution goes, it has placed the rates at six annas in all the forests except in forests under the management of a village panchayat where it is left to them to make substantial reductions in suitable cases, which may range from zero to six annas. As my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnaswami Nayudu has told us in moving terms, these agriculturists have a lot of grievances in this matter and they are not by any means happy. It is a real justice to those people if you reduce the price and it is that that this resolution seeks to do. I do not think more words are necessary to commend the resolution to the acceptance of the House. This is not a party question and I have not the slightest doubt that, even though the Government may advance some objections, so far as the elected Members of the House are concerned, all of us will give our unanimous vote in favour of the motion."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I only rise to say a few words to safeguard the concession which obtains in South Kanara not only as regards dry leaves but also as regards green leaves. The concession at present enjoyed is that they are allowed to remove green leaves as well as dry leaves without paying anything. That is the concession that has been declared openly last time during the budget debate and which has been enforced by a resolution moved by Government. The amendment which is now the substantial motion before the House fixes the maximum rate at six annas and I do not know if South Kanara will suffer thereby. I would like to state that the motion may be accepted if it will not affect the present concessions that have been made in respect of South Kanara."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"I am not quite sure of that. If my hon. Friend reads the resolution as it stands, it only recommends to the Government a charge of six annas in all forests that are not under the management of village panchayats."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I consulted the hon. the Mover and he said this would not in any way prejudice any exceptional privileges that are obtaining in any other place. I would anyway suggest that a proviso be added to the effect that the acceptance of this resolution will not affect the special concessions now obtaining in South Kanara or elsewhere. I move that an amendment to that effect be made in the resolution."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I second the motion."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Would the hon. Member kindly write down his amendment and pass it on to me?"



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Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“In supporting the resolution, I want to say a few words. There is already a loud complaint with regard to green manure leaves and cattle grazing. The difficulty is felt all the keener in Madura district. As Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar remarked, there is already a grumbling, and I hope the Government will take the necessary precautions to avoid such complaints, not only with regard to green manure but also with regard to cattle-grazing. With these few words, I support the motion.”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“Sir, may I begin by saying in all seriousness that I very much regret that the hon. Member who moved this resolution should have thought fit to introduce a suggestion that one of the reasons why Government did not encourage the extraction of green manure from our forests was that they wanted thereby to serve the interests of certain European firms selling artificial manures.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“May I rise to a point of personal explanation? Already there is grumbling on the part of the ryot, rightly or wrongly, that the object of the Government in cutting off the supply of green manure is that the sales by the European firms may be increased. I simply repeated what I have heard.”

\* The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“I am very glad that my hon. Friend does not himself support the suggestion, but I cannot help saying that it would have been better if in the course of this debate so much prominence had not been given to a suggestion which has no foundation whatever in fact.

“Now, before I proceed to the general subject, I should like to say one word about the amendment. I am afraid that the amendment does not appeal to me for the reason which the hon. the Mover of the amendment rightly pointed out, namely, that it is not desirable that Government should limit the powers of panchayats any more than is necessary. The resolution as proposed would have left the panchayats with power to charge for green manure leaves with reference to the conditions of the particular village and their financial position: the amendment proposes to limit that discretion.”

\* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I may also add that the special Panchayat officer induces people directly or indirectly to levy a specific fee. If we pass this motion, they need not be guided by him in this matter.”

\* The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“Government have no intention whatever of compelling panchayats to levy any specific fee. It is the business of the Panchayat officer to advise them as to what revenue is needed to carry on their operations, but nothing is further from our intention than to allow him to use any kind of compulsion. It is for that reason that I am afraid the amendment does not appeal to me.

“I now come to the substance of the resolution as amended. In regard to the speech of the Mover, while I fully appreciate the aim which he has in view, namely, to improve the facilities for getting manure at the disposal of the ryots in his district, I think he is under some disadvantage inasmuch as he has not had an opportunity of acquainting himself with the history of this matter and with the large volume of literature on the subject which already exists. He spoke, for example, of a certain jump in the rates introduced six or seven years ago. As a matter of fact, Sir, the rates which are now in force have been in force since 1912 with only slight modifications; the



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policy of discouraging the extraction of green manures from the forests has been in force since 1912. The Government in this House are very frequently called upon to say if they have a policy in a particular matter. Sometimes we are not able to say what our policy is at the moment. But in this particular instance we are free from that charge, because we have during the last decade laid down and published a very definite policy. The latest statement of that policy is contained in the Order, dated 17th June 1921, which was laid on the Editors' Table. The position is this. In 1906 or 1907 the attention of the Government was called by the Forest Department to the damage which was being done to the forests by the almost unrestricted extraction of green manure leaves. The matter was inquired into by a committee, and, as a result of that, Government came to the conclusion that not only in the interests of the maintenance of the forests generally, but in the future interests of the ryots themselves, it was desirable that the use of green manure from forests, where that extraction was likely to damage the forests, should be discouraged. The course on which Government embarked is this.

"They took every step they possibly could to encourage the use of green manures from private lands and unreserved forests. The department of Agriculture were called in. They made experiments in a very large number of places in the Presidency. Demonstrations of the possibility of growing green manure were held. The Forest Department was itself called upon to grow seed which was made available to the ryots for the purpose of growing their own green manure. The experiment met with considerable success in some places. As a matter of fact, 13 districts in the Presidency do not use green manure from the forests. When the Mover talks about complaints of this sort being universal, I think he was not aware of that fact. My hon. Friend from South Arcot, while he dealt with the generalities of the case, is, I think, not aware that South Arcot is one of the districts which makes a very small demand on the forests for green manure for the excellent reason that they have, to a considerable extent, adopted the practice of growing green manures for themselves."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"It is because of the exorbitant seigniorage rate."

\* The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"The fact remains that they have arranged to supply themselves with green manure grown on their own land or unreserves."

"Tinnevely is another case of the same sort. The policy therefore of the Government which was introduced in 1911 was, while recognizing that green manure was most valuable, and in some cases essential, to discourage its extraction from forests where that extraction was going to do any harm to the forests."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Does the hon. the Home Member think that it is possible to grow green manure on fields under precarious sources of water supply?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"My information is that it is possible to grow it on many kinds of fields."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Without water?"

\* The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"There is no particular reason why certain manure crops should not be grown on dry lands. I am now however



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dealing with the question of policy. We are accused of having none. The matter continued under the close investigation of the Board of Revenue as long as the Forest administration was in their hands, and finally in 1921, as the result of representations made to the then Governor during his tours, a further investigation of the whole matter was undertaken. The very lucid report made by Mr. Cox and the Director of Agriculture, which was a result of that inquiry, was embodied in a Government Order which was laid on the table of the House. It would make matters clearer if I read to the House the two paragraphs of the order which has been published:—‘It is perfectly clear that sooner or later the ryots will have to change their customs and adapt their ways to the needs of a system of conservative cultivation. The process can only be postponed, not prevented, by allowing them to destroy the remaining forests to the last bush.’

“It follows from what has been said above that the Government accept as their ultimate aim the prohibition of leaf manure removal from the reserved forests of all districts, except parts of South Kanara and Malabar, where such removal is reported to be harmless. The Government, however, recognize that the immediate introduction of complete prohibition in all districts would cause hardship: nor is this step advised in the report. Until the realization of the ultimate aim is considered possible, seigniorage will continue to be charged at rates varying according to the local circumstances of particular districts. In the meanwhile, it will be the duty of the Agricultural Department to do all that is possible to popularize the use of green manure crops wherever wet cultivation obtains.

“That, Sir, is the policy, and my particular point is now that the Members of the House who support the resolution may, I think, fairly be called upon to contest the whole question of the policy rather than merely apply themselves to particular local needs such as the Mover brought to our notice. It may be that the policy is right or it may be wrong. But it is the declared policy, and I was in hopes that one among the members who spoke would have attacked it on the wider ground rather than merely put forward the undoubted fact that the rates of seigniorage are higher than they used formerly to be. I do not deny it. The question is whether it is a good policy to encourage people to go on using the manure leaves from the forests where it is going to do them damage or whether it is a better policy that the Government should look further forward and recognize that in course of time the ryot will have to get his manure leaves elsewhere than from those forests and should do all they can to help him to supply by other means a necessity which it will not be possible in days to come to supply from the forests.

“The objection to the removal of manure leaves applies chiefly from the point of view of Government to those forests which it is necessary to conserve in the larger interests of the Presidency. Hon. Members will remember that about the time of the Budget last year an announcement was made as to the reclassification of our forests under three heads, namely, (i) Provincial remunerative, (ii) Provincial unremunerative, and (iii) Local, i.e., ryots’ forests. Under class (ii) would fall those forests which it is necessary to retain for protective purposes or which contain valuable timber. Class (iii) forests are those which supply the ryot’s every-day needs and which the Government are prepared to hand over to Panchayat



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management, if panchayats can be formed to work them satisfactorily. Mr. Whitehead was entrusted with the duty of making this investigation. I have not yet seen his report. But when we get it orders will be passed and we shall be able to decide which areas should be declared as ryot's forests. Those areas will be handed over to panchayats, and in those areas, as far as we can see, there will be no restriction on the removal of green manure leaves.

"We are mainly concerned with the second class of forests—Provincial unremunerative. The particular issue is, as I see it, whether Government are, in the case of those forests, which *ex hypothesi* it is necessary to retain for protective purposes and which are valuable, to agree to practically unrestricted removal of green manure leaves. We unfortunately cannot accept that proposition. I doubt whether the House itself would desire us to take the risk of destroying those forests for the purpose of providing green manure which as we hold can reasonably be supplied in a great many places by another method. The case of the new class III forests, the ryots' forests, is quite different. They are areas over which it is not thought necessary, from the point of view of conservation, to maintain so close a control.

3-30 p.m. "The area over which the panchayats will operate will be very large and they will be left with large powers. They will not, I hope, be subject to the limit of six annas which the seconder proposed. My proposition therefore is that for all practical purposes the ryots, including those mentioned by the hon. Mover, will have all reasonable facilities for getting green manure. The hon. Member who seconded the resolution accused us of not having a policy, because we varied its application in different places; that charge is not justified. The policy stands, but within the limits of that policy neither I nor the forest officers have any objection to the removal of green leaves in any case where it can be shown that it will not damage the forest. There are the cases of South Kanara and Malabar where we realized that the removal of green manure from forests would not have any injurious effect on the forest and we have allowed it. But I may say at once that it is not possible to the Government to accept the general proposition which comes to this: that the removal of manure leaves is to be practically unrestricted in all the forests under its control. It is quite true that, in the Chittoor district, we recently reduced the rates and, to that extent, encouraged the removal of green manure leaves from the forests. That was the result of the Committee on Chittoor Forest Grievances which sat last year."

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Not only in Chittoor but also in Cuddapah."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"Have we reduced it in Cuddapah?"

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"One year earlier than in Chittoor."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"I am not quite sure why we did so (Laughter). Anyhow, I will make enquiries and see if we ought to restore it to its original level (laughter). I only referred to that matter by way of showing that if in a particular case we do not see any danger to the forest from the leaves being removed, we do not wish to penalise such removal."



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I may add that in regard to Cuddapah I find from the papers that the forests in connexion with which the question arises are likely to come under popular control and the Government will not be called upon to decide whether manure leaves should be removed or not. I doubt very much whether my hon. Friends the mover and the seconder realize that what we are discussing is really only the removal of green manure leaves from the second-class forests—those which it is desirable to retain for productive purposes or which are valuable—and that what they propose is to allow practically unrestricted removal from such forests. I say 'unrestricted' because it is apparently admitted that at six annas a cart-load there would be no limit to the demand for manure leaves from the forests. I do not think, Sir, that I need trouble the House any further. I am only anxious to make it clear first that we do not in the least ignore the great importance of green manure but that we have to set different interests against each other. We have the interest of the preservation of the forests, and we have the interest of the cultivator. What we hold in connexion with the important class of Provincial forests is that the preservation of the forests is of more importance to the community than the giving to the ryots a cheap manure. On the other hand, we are doing all we can to enable them to provide themselves with green manure from other sources to meet their needs."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"I accept the amendment proposed by my hon. Friend Mr. J. A. Saldanha, to add the words 'without prejudice to any privileges now obtaining in any part of the Presidency' at the end of my motion."

\* Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, the question that is covered by this resolution as the hon. the Home Member said, has to be viewed from two standpoints—first, as to whether unrestricted power to remove all manure leaves available should be given in what may be called the Provincial remunerative forests and secondly, whether the present seigniorage rate of Re. 1 or Rs. 2 in some districts should be continued. So far as the question of the raising of fees is concerned, it was, as the hon. the Home Member said, only about 3 annas per cart-load before 1912. From the year 1912 onwards it was raised in various districts in various years, and I believe in 1919 it was raised to Rs. 2 in Chittoor district. The question we have now to consider is whether for leaves grown by nature and not grown as a result of any investment of capital by the Government or otherwise, the Government are justified in charging Rs. 2 instead of annas 3 which they were previously charging. Is that justifiable? Here is a forest which, in the interests of the people, the Government have taken charge of and on which they spend nothing except on the establishment. That being the case, are the Government justified in charging Rs. 2 per cart-load of green leaves? That is the point of view to which I think the hon. Member has to address himself. That is a grievance which we have been urging always. It is a case where what people were getting for 3 annas was sought to be restricted first of all by the forest officers by imposing a slightly higher fee. This process was carried on further and further with a view, it is said, of further restricting the use of leaf manure from the forests and the fee now stands at the abnormal figure of Rs. 2, which makes it out of the reach of the poor people. It is really for the purpose of helping the poor people that I



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wish the old rate of 3 annas to be restored. I am glad that the hon. Mover has not proposed going back to the original rate of 3 annas but has doubled it. Therefore, Sir, for a thing which the Government say they are maintaining in the interests of the people, they are not justified in charging anything more than 6 annas.

"As to the next point whether there should be unrestricted removal of green manure, the question comes to this. The hon. the Home Member referred to the Chittoor Forest Committee. I was one of the members of that Committee. We considered the question. I pressed and pressed very strongly before that Committee, which consisted no doubt of the forest officers to a large extent and non-officials also, that the fee should be reduced to the old rate. But, Sir, in a committee composed like that we were where we are—a minority. Practically we had by way of compromise to agree to one-rupee fees. I am glad that the Government now state that they are reconsidering it with a view to raising it to Rs. 2. We will wait and see what this process is coming to. The whole question is if in 1912 three annas was being charged and if a large number of cart-loads were being taken and if again your policy is to see that the number of cart-loads is reduced by any number whatsoever, why do you want to make revenue out of it by raising the fees to Rs. 2? Is it for the purpose of seeing that your forest income is increased so that you can have more subordinates to be let loose on the people who go to the forests for various purposes? That was the point I took up in the Committee. The Committee was satisfied—and I am sure that the Conservator who sat with me on the Committee was also satisfied—that I was right. He was an officer of the Government. He was bound by so many rules, and he knew that his superiors would take him to task if he had agreed to bring the fee lower down."

\* The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"Sir, a word of personal explanation. I have already explained that the Government has viewed this matter as a matter of policy. It is not right to say that the Conservator or other district officer of North Arcot had any reason to fear that he would get into trouble if he reduced revenue by lowering the rates."

\* Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"There is some amount of confusion created by keeping these two things together. First of all, we should consider whether it is necessary at all that it should be raised from 3 annas to Rs. 2. It was once 3 annas, and the Government have raised it to Rs. 2. The hon. the Home Member says 'Why charge 3 annas'. I certainly say we need not charge anything, but if there is to be a charge at all there is no reason why it should be raised from 3 annas to Rs. 2. There is no reason to object to a proposal to make it 6 annas instead of what it was in 1912. There may be a restriction as to the amount of manure leaves to be removed, but the Government are not entitled to charge anything higher than 3 or 6 annas. The Government have no right to charge more. I heard the hon. the Home Member's reply. He has not said a single word as to why the removal should not be restricted to so many head-loads or cart-loads keeping the fee at 3 annas only. All that he said was that we have to restrict removal, and one of the ways by which we can do that is by charging higher fees. Human ingenuity should certainly be able to bring about restriction by a better method. I understood from the hon. the Home Member's statement that even the recommendations of the Forest



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Committee of Chittoor have been tried to be overcome. While in previous years the rate of fees was Rs. 2 the Government allowed manure leaves to be removed from a number of blocks, and since it was reduced they want to counteract the effect of that reduction by saying that manure leaves can be removed only from particular blocks. That was one of the ways by which they back out of their promise. I am sure the Government can devise methods by which they can restrict people from removing manure leaves. So long as they adopt a policy of restriction with regard to the number of cart-loads to be removed, there is no justification whatsoever for raising the fee on manure leaves from 3 annas to 2 rupees, and they cannot certainly object to the 6 annas fee now proposed which is double that of what was being collected in 1912.

"As to the broader question whether there should be any restriction at all, there seems to be a certain amount of feeling that the Government should not be allowed to have a free hand in the matter, and experience has justified this feeling. As a result of the Chittoor Forest Committee's Report, the rate was reduced from Rs. 2 to Re. 1. Though the Government accepted that recommendation, their action amounted to saying that they would charge Rs. 2 for the removal of green manure. I am sure therefore that if the rate of fee is left to the discretion merely of the Forest department, there will be any amount of difficulty. If the Government agrees to this resolution, and if a committee of this House is appointed for the carrying out of it, I am sure we will be able to arrive at a satisfactory solution from the point of view of the maintenance of the forests and from the point of view of the ryots who will be able to enjoy the benefit of a lower rate of fee.

3-45 p.m. "I say, Sir, that so far as this resolution is concerned the question of reducing the seigniorage fees is one which cannot be objected to on any ground except on the one ground that the Government are the owners of forests, and that they are therefore entitled to charge any rate they like."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"May I ask the hon. Member to refer me to any occasion on which the Government made a statement of that kind?"

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"Sir, if it is a question of limiting the supply of manure leaves it is not necessary that you should raise the seigniorage fees on that account. If that ground, namely, the restriction of the supply of manure leaves, cannot be advanced as a sufficient ground for the raising of seigniorage fees, I fail to see what other ground the hon. the Home Member can advance.

"With regard to the suggestion that the amendment is not acceptable, so far as forest panchayat areas are concerned, I may say that in Chittoor the general grazing fee has been reduced to As. 3 while in the panchayat forest areas the old rate is still being maintained. On the one hand, you reduce the fees in the case of Government forests, while on the other hand in the case of panchayat areas, you literally force the village panchayats to charge at As. 8 even though they are quite willing to charge only at As. 6. I therefore think that this sort of maximum of As. 6 is also necessary in the case of panchayat areas because there should be some uniformity maintained in the



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case of both. If any particular panchayat wants to raise the rate, I do not think any Member of this Council will object to it. For these reasons, I support the resolution that has been moved."

The resolution as further amended was put to the House and carried.

COMMITTEE TO IMPROVE IRRIGATION FACILITIES IN THE CUDDAPAH DISTRICT.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" The resolution that stands in my name runs as follows :—

*' That this Council recommends to the Government that a Committee be appointed to inquire into and report on the condition of the existing irrigation works in the Cuddapah district and the improvements that are necessary and feasible thereto and also on the possibilities of extending irrigation sources.'*

" Sir, it will be necessary for me to give certain figures so far as this resolution is concerned. The area of the district is nearly 6,000 sq. miles. The population is 888,000. The revenue derived from the district is Rs. 16,87,000. The number of villages is 975. The most important of all, viz., the irrigated area from all sources, comes to nearly 150,958 acres of which the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal claims to irrigate 32,737 acres. The number of tanks, both large and small, is 1,166 besides river channels and other supply channels which go to feed these tanks.

" The next point that I would urge is that this district is notoriously in the famine zone. From the year 1875-76, when the big famine occurred, until now five famines devastated the district. In 1891, there was a very severe famine in parts of the district. In 1896-97, there was another severe famine. During the last two faslis Rayachoti taluk suffered largely from famine and even the western portion of Pulivendla taluk was affected, and, notwithstanding the theory that has been persistently advanced by the Forest department that the conservation of forests will improve rainfall, it so happens that in the Cuddapah district the greater the conservation of forests the lesser is the rainfall. The Government also wanted to improve the rainfall by imposing punitive police in some villages the forests of which were said to have been destroyed by these villagers. Notwithstanding all these efforts and theories Cuddapah is yet far behind the normal average rainfall.

" I have said something about the famine condition of the district. As regards the actual conditions of the tanks and other sources of supply, they are extremely deplorable. It so happens that none of the big officers ever visit the district. They may pass from Madras to Bellary or Anantapur but they sleep in their railway compartments when they pass through Cuddapah station. The only consolation that the people derive is that these officers pass through their station in a sleeping mood (Laughter). Out of 1,166 tanks, more than 75 per cent are in need of repairs. In the case of some tanks there is no attempt at all at repairing them. I shall give only one instance, because if I were to quote all there will be no time for all the 25 resolutions to be discussed. Lomada tank is the instance. A breach occurred in that tank some time back, and it is in a



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worse condition now. No attempt has been made at repairing it. Some tanks are leaky. For instance, the Vontimetta tank is one. The supply channels to the various tanks have become silted up, and most of these tanks are in a hopelessly broken and dilapidated condition.

"Now as regards the direct supply channels from rivers and other spring channels, several of these have dried up, and there is not a single drop of water flowing over them or underneath them. Still, the Government are collecting wet assessment on the lands situated alongside these channels, though they know that paddy or any wet crop has not been raised. For instance, on the lands along Kottapalli channel they do collect wet assessment. Notwithstanding the protest and notwithstanding the humble submission raised by the ryots the Government are collecting wet assessment. The answer that they give is 'this channel is subject to kudimaramat, and the kudis have not repaired the tank and therefore we are not bound to take notice of the absence of wet cultivation'. Of course this argument may look quite logical and clever, but it does not at all satisfy the poor ryots who are in a miserable condition. Now in other cases, though the tanks received their supply quite sufficiently in olden days, say, for about 4 to 6 months, now it lasts for 2 months, i.e., half of what it was. Now, Sir, that is the condition of the several sources of supply.

"Now I shall take up the condition of some taluks in general. In Sidhout taluk the first crop, cultivated area has considerably diminished during the last ten years. In 1320 fasli the number of acres cultivated was 8,199. In fasli 1330, ten years later, it has diminished to 7,466. That is the progress which this taluk has undergone under the generous British Government in this Presidency. The number of tanks in the taluk is 104, and most of them are in a very bad condition. Let us take the Badvel taluk which contains a natural tank formed by the natural hills and other boundaries. In ancient days it contained big tanks and the Badvel tank is at present one of the biggest tanks, perhaps second only to the Cumbum tank.

"That tank also has got a wet area of 3,000 acres to irrigate. But during the last three years this area was not fully cultivated with paddy or other wet crop. Only dry crops were grown. This Badvel taluk suffered from famine in 1891-92 and parts of the taluk are in chronically bad condition. Most of the tanks are in a state of disrepair. And the Sagileru project is not only in a state of disrepair, but the water in it is not sufficient. I am sorry to observe that the condition of this taluk has not attracted the attention either of the local authorities or of those above. All the pattadars there are people who are mostly paying Rs. 10 or less each. The average holding, both dry and wet, decreased considerably during the last ten years, between 1910 and 1920. The arable area decreased from 70 per cent to 63.7 per cent. The percentage of area cultivated also decreased from 77 to 67 per cent. The population also is falling off. In the year 1911 it was 95,896, and in the year 1921 it was less by about 5,000. They have all gone away from this taluk. That is the deplorable condition of this taluk.

"Rayachoti taluk has an area of 1,103 square miles. It has 737 tanks. The Revenue authorities visited this taluk with regard to the remission work.



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The taluk gets the smallest quantity of rainfall though it is surrounded on all sides by closely-preserved forests. The people are very poor here.

"I have said that the Pulivendla taluk is adjacent to Anantapur, but the misfortune of Anantapur extends also to portions of this taluk. It suffers from droughts. These four taluks are the worst-affected taluks in the district. I am not unconscious of the fact that the Government have done something to improve the irrigation facilities by constructing the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal. I am glad to say that the irrigation of this canal has been improved and several projects have been added to it, with the result that a larger and larger area is being irrigated. In the year 1900 the area irrigated by this canal was 11,482 acres, in 1910 it was 15,132 acres and in 1920 it was 19,565 acres. This shows that where Government have shown some sympathy and have translated that sympathy into action, the improvement of the people has been assured. All these people are very grateful to the Government, and it is in that grateful attitude that I have come forward with this resolution, so that Government could extend their sympathy to the other taluks also. Only two taluks are benefited by this Cuddapah-Kurnool canal, viz., parts of Proddatur and the Cuddapah taluk. Even here I am bound to bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member that there is an anicut in the canal in the Cuddapah taluk. Now, Sir, I do not know who constructed that anicut; but more water flows out on account of leakage than what irrigates the fields, so much so that the Penneru river down the anicut is a perpetual stream. Added to that, the people also are wasting a large quantity of water from this canal, so much so that a very large quantity of water goes waste into the Penneru river. I hope the hon. the Law Member will take note of this also and rectify it so that more water can be taken and utilized by the people.

"Now this in brief is the condition of the district. It is unnecessary for me to say that improvements are necessary. I shall not dilate upon this aspect of the question. But I must bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member the third point involved in this resolution, viz., the possibilities of extending the irrigation facilities of this district. The district is famous for the number of rivers that flow through it. There is the Penneru river running right through. Then we have the Chitravati, the Papaghni, the Cheyyeru and several other smaller rivers on the southern side. There are also the Sagileru and the Kundu. Some of these rivers pass through very beautiful country surrounded by forests and hills, very often piercing through mountain gorges, to the plains. Now my submission is that when the district has got such natural advantages for irrigation purposes, I fail to see why Government have not bestowed any attention at damming these rivers and utilizing their water for the purpose of irrigation. I have perused Mr. Morgan's Report on the Irrigation Projects in which it has been stated that some schemes were explored and found to be impracticable. With due deference to those that have explored them I would say that they have done it indifferently. Proper care and attention has not been bestowed upon it, and I think it is not just to say that the district has had a trial and been found wanting.

"Lastly, Sir, I know that very recently we have passed the Irrigation Act: I am aware that the hon. the Law Member in his speech at Bellary said that Cuddapah will be benefited by a scheme which he had adumbrated and that



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it would add 5,000 acres to the area cultivated; I also read the letter written by the Superintending Engineer, Diwan Bahadur Arokiaswami Pillai, to the Vice-President in which he adumbrates certain schemes which will benefit the southern portion of the Kurnool district and also the northern portion of the Cuddapah district. I know all these things. But what I want is not these mouth-watering schemes (Laughter). I want field-watering schemes (Laughter). The mouths of us in the Ceded districts have become parched on account of the constant watering. I implore the hon. the Law Member not to say that he has got this scheme, or that scheme, but confine his attention to the Cuddapah district. I do not now ask him to launch upon any new schemes; I am not very ambitious. All I want is this: please appoint a commission; let this commission investigate into these cases and find out the irrigation sources, their present condition, the feasibility of repairing them and putting them into efficient condition and also explore the possibilities of further improvements to the irrigation sources. This is a very small request and I do not think that the hon. the Law Member will have the heart to say, 'Well, I am not going to accept this resolution.' I appeal to his heart more than to his head. I therefore submit, Sir, that this is what is necessary.

"Some of my brothers in the Council have given notice of amendments. As regards the amendment given notice of by my hon. Friend Mr. G. Rameswara Rao substituting a special officer for the committee which I am asking for, I do not know when he became enamoured of the special officer. My object is this. Let there be a special officer and let there be one or two representatives of the people who know how to represent the grievances of the people. The committee may contain officials and non-officials, experts and non-experts. Therefore I implore my old friend Mr. Rameswara Rao not to press his amendment."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"He has not moved it yet."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARU:—"In anticipation of that I ask him not to do so. With these words I recommend that this resolution may be accepted."

SRIMAN SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya:—"Sir, I second the motion. I have no intimate knowledge of Cuddapah; but this much I know of it, that it is a famine district, and every alternate year much of the provincial revenues goes out to the district for the purpose of famine relief. We now know Cuddapah very well from the lucid exposition of its condition by our hon. Friend Mr. Narasimhacharu. We have seen that the policy of giving famine relief every alternate year does not go very far to improve the condition of the district. Instead of that it would be better if some radical remedy is applied by improving the irrigation facilities of the district and bringing large areas under cultivation. Only by doing so can we stop the constant occurrence of famine in the district. I hope Government will appoint a committee to investigate the matter and thus look to the interests of Cuddapah."

\* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I have given notice of an amendment suggesting the substitution of the words, 'a special officer with power to co-opt a non-official from each district' for the words 'a committee,' and the substitution of the words 'Ceded districts' for the words 'Cuddapah'



[4th February 1925]

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" All that I promise is that I shall undertake to convey to the authorities concerned the feelings exhibited by hon. Members in this House and the statements made by them."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether any particular community has got a right over another community to compel them to do menial work unlawfully?" (Laughter).

### Irrigation.

#### *Improvement of the Suriliar channels.*

\* 50 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how far the proposals for improving the Suriliar channels have been worked out; and

(b) how far the spout system of irrigation recently introduced is progressing and whether it is really advantageous to the ryots?

A.—(a) Estimates have been prepared.

(b) Resluicing is in progress and, together with the remodelling of the channels of which this forms a part, should be very beneficial to the ryots.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" With regard to clause (a) of the question, may I know how long it would take to give effect to the proposals?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As I have already stated in the answer to clause (b), resluicing is in progress, and I do not think it ought to take more than three or four months."

#### *Repairs to the anicut, etc., at Periapalaiyam village, Erode taluk.*

\* 51 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the anicut of Periapalaiyam village, Erode taluk, Coimbatore district, was washed away by the floods several years ago and the same was left in a ruined condition without any repairs whatever ever since the time;

(b) what has become of the mahazar submitted by the residents of Agrahara Periapalaiyam village, Erode taluk, to the Coimbatore District Collector on 20th March 1924 requesting him to inspect the channel and the anicut;

(c) whether it is a fact that owing to non-repairs of the channel and the anicut most of the lands lying near by were transferred from wet to dry except a few portions at the tail end of the channel;

(d) whether it is a fact that the signatories to the mahazar are prepared to dig the ruined channel at their expense on condition that the Government undertake to rebuild the existing anicut across Noyyal (under ruins);

(e) if so, the difficulty in accepting the offer made by the signatories to the mahazar; and



[Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [5th February 1925]

cognate resolutions. I may say at once that I have no objection to constitute a committee of officials and non-officials for the purpose of advising Government in regard to the possibilities of irrigation in the Ceded districts, and I agree for this reason. I have from time to time received notices of various resolutions bearing upon the separate districts, and each one of those districts has tabled resolutions through its representatives for the appointment of a committee to explore the possibilities in the matter of irrigation advance. For instance, in regard to the Kurnool district there is a resolution that has been tabled. There was another resolution that was tabled in the last session asking for irrigation facilities in the Ceded districts as a whole. I think, Sir, it will strengthen the hands of Government if we put before the House facts and figures in such a manner as to make the work easy for the committee and so as to enable the House later on through that committee to realize the propriety of the course that the Government pursue or will pursue in regard to irrigation in the Ceded districts and other districts similarly situate. Two circumstances which may have a bearing on this matter are these. The difficulty in the case of Cuddapah district is that on account of the scanty rainfall in bad years the catchment areas fail and also the fact remains of a porous sub-soil in most of the cases. The result has been that we have found it difficult to conduct our investigations to a successful termination with reference to any small project. In saying so I do not want the House to go away with the impression that the Government have not either with reference to Cuddapah district or any other district taken care to investigate and even to put on hand many important projects. Naturally from the conditions of the district and the conditions of the surrounding country those projects have not been ambitious schemes. Let me before I proceed further, indicate what are the schemes which have been attempted in the case of the Cuddapah district. There is the Chepad project consisting in the excavation of a channel from the Kunderu river above the Rajoil anicut; the Maidkur project provides for the improvement of the existing Maidkur channel for over three miles extending it for a length of  $11\frac{1}{4}$  miles and for providing the necessary branch channels, and it is nearing completion; the Ukkayapalli project is to command an area of 16,000 acres and has been completed at a cost of Rs. 78,103; the Nagavaram anicut system providing for the improvement of the existing anicut and supply channel, has been completed at a cost of Rs. 88,757; the Sagileru system to which adavance has been made was also completed at a cost of over Rs. 3,00,000; with regard to the Papaghni reservoir project the preliminary report was submitted, but the scheme was not sufficiently promising to justify detailed investigation. And there are also other projects which I can mention. I am only mentioning these for the purpose of showing that it has not been the policy of the Government to ignore the Cuddapah district or any of the Ceded districts, but our outstanding difficulty has been the porous nature of the sub-soil in most of the cases, also the scanty rainfall and the nature of the catchment area. Therefore in regard to the irrigation of the Cuddapah district and other adjoining districts the policy of the Government has been to investigate the possibility of an irrigation project having its origin elsewhere which may be sure of its water-supply and a reservoir which would, to a certain extent, though not completely, benefit the particular areas concerned. It was with reference to those considerations that the Sangameswaram and Tungabhadra



COMMITTEE TO IMPROVE IRRIGATION FACILITIES IN THE CUDDAPAH 337  
DISTRICT

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projects were investigated, the latter designed to irrigate a large portion of the Cuddapah district. But though I repeat these allegations and statements often in this Council, I realise that there is a feeling in the House that Government for some mysterious reason are not really in earnest in the matter of improving the famine conditions of those districts. I desire to repudiate that suggestion and I desire also to make it absolutely plain that I am perfectly willing to place all my cards on the table. I am prepared to appoint a committee of officials and non-officials. Let them investigate the matter, and let them be satisfied that small schemes will not be really of outstanding benefit to those areas. But the only thing that is to be done is to educate public opinion and the opinion in this Council and to enable this Council by a sort of self-denying ordinance to see that they do get for these areas sufficient money to inaugurate large and ambitious schemes to the exclusion of small projects. Especially in the conditions of the Ceded districts, the small projects will do no good. They will only be small palliatives. It may benefit certain specific localities such as the locality where the Tungabhadra river goes, the Bellary west canal project for instance. These are the schemes which may be concentrated on as accepted. But if you want to improve the condition of the Ceded districts and make those tracts different from what they are, you have to embark on a project with a reservoir which is located elsewhere and from which the canal will irrigate such of the Ceded districts as can possibly be operated upon. It is from that point of view and because I am anxious and desirous that the committee should have all the information placed before it and to satisfy itself that the policy which the Government is pursuing is in a way the soundest policy for these tracts, that I propose to accept the resolution as amended."

Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai and Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu rose to speak on the motion.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Unless hon. Members wish to vary the resolution as amended and accepted by the Government it seems to me that it would serve no useful purpose to invite further speeches in the matter. I understand that Mr. Rameswara Rao who has given notice of other amendments is not going to move them."

The resolution as amended was put to the House and carried.

FEES PAYABLE BY MEDICAL STUDENTS.

In the absence of Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar who had given notice of Resolution No. 4, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar requested permission of the House to move it, and the permission was accordingly granted.

\* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I beg to move:

*'That this Council recommends to the Government that the fees of the medical students who joined the Medical Colleges before notification No. 539, published on page 303, Fort St. George Gazette, dated 3rd July 1923, should, till they complete their course, be charged only at the rates prevailing on the dates on which they began their course either for the full course or for any particular subject for which they attend classes.'*

"I shall not, in moving this resolution with the permission of the Council, detain it for any considerable time. The justice of the proposition seems to



[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

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me to be obvious. Before the notification referred to in this resolution, that is, notification No. 589, published at page 303 of the *Port St. George Gazette*, dated 3rd July 1923, the fees of the Medical College students were Rs. 120 a year or if they were paid in a lump sum for five years together, the total fee was Rs. 540. By this notification published in the *Gazette* which has been referred to, the annual fee of Rs. 120 was raised to Rs. 200 and the consolidated fee payable for five years which stood at Rs. 540 before, was enhanced to Rs. 900. And the notification further says that if, after this notification, the students fail, they have to pay the new rates of fees. I submit, Sir, that when the students originally joined the college there was a particular rate of fees, and they could not then know—of course, they did not know—that at a subsequent period before their college course was over, the then fees would be enhanced. If they had known that such enhancement would take place, in all probability some at least of those students would not have joined the college. I submit that all considerations of fairness, justice and equity require that this notification should not have retrospective effect whether the students fail or pass in examinations held subsequent to the date of the notification. And after all, Sir, we have not a superfluity of qualified medical officers in the Presidency. On the other hand, their number is very limited and very small. And the existing number of these qualified medical practitioners are able to meet the requirements of only a very small fraction of the people. In addition to the misfortune of failure, the penalty of enhanced payment should not be imposed upon these unfortunate students. So that, having regard, as I submitted already, to the considerations of fair-play, equity and justice, the recommendation contained in this resolution should be accepted. The notification giving retrospective effect in the case of those who fail to pass in the examination should be cancelled. With these few remarks, I have very great pleasure in moving this resolution."

\*Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I have very great pleasure in seconding this resolution. According to the notification published in the *Port St. George Gazette* for raising the fees in the Medical College the fees were raised from Rs. 120 to Rs. 200 per annum and Rs. 540 to Rs. 900 for the whole course. Sir, it is a very great hardship indeed. In 1914 it was only Rs. 120. It is stated in the notification that the fee was so low then as to make the medical profession popular. I do not know what happened between 1914 and now that it might be allowed to become unpopular. Sir, we have not got enough of medical men to meet the needs of the country. We have got in Government service medical men only one for every 20,000 of the population. Only our Government does not realize the situation and does not extend it to at least one in thousand. The notification says that for every student they were spending Rs. 921 and that was a high sum. Sir, in all the professional colleges we do not look to how much we spend on each student. In fact, in the Engineering College we spend more than the revenue we get. Even in the Arts colleges we spend more than the revenue. That is for the good of the country and we ought not to take that into consideration. Especially on the medical people if you spend Rs. 921 per head it will pay you ten times. Throughout his life he will give you ten times more than what you spend on him for a few years. When that is so I do not know why the notification grudged paying Rs. 921 to the medical student. Even that Rs. 900 is only for the student that start on the first of July 1924. There are students who joined before



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that period and according to the notification they will have to pay increased rate if they fail one year. Some of the students might have made provision only for the amount of money which they will have to spend for five years according to the then rate. Now, if in the middle of the course they are asked to pay more it will really be a hardship. Sir, Government ought to have known by this time that it is not possible, nay almost impossible, for the medical students to go through the course in five years; because it is generally eight years and usually it is ten years. Sir, we have got four University examinations to pass in five years and each examination consists of a number of compartments and in each subject we have got papers to answer practical and oral examinations to sit for and if in any of these a student is ploughed he will have to stay for six months more if not one year. It will be a very great hardship if you ask that student who is to go through the course for eight years or ten years to pay according to the increased rate. Moreover the examinations cover there a period of twenty days or so and even the bright students get ill by the strain of the examination and I have known cases where the students were detained on that account. I know in some cases in the course of the twenty days of examination death occurred in a family and stopped a student from appearing for the examinations. In such cases it is not reasonable to ask them pay more. The notification provides only for the whole term. Even if the student fails in one subject he will have to pay Rs. 100 for that subject while he is paying only Rs. 15 now. Taking these things into consideration, I hope the hon. Minister will see that the grievances of the medical students to-day are redressed. Sir, I know the hon. Minister has come down to do some good to the medical students and I hope he will also do the same thing here."

\*The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Mr. President, Sir, the recommendation contained in the resolution is to the effect that the students of the Medical College who before the issue of the notification for revised fees were admitted into the college should be allowed to study paying the fees at the same rate at which they were charged before the notification issued. As was pointed out it is true that the rates were at Rs. 120 before the notification issued and later on it was raised to Rs. 200. The reasons why the rates were increased were the same as in the case of the other colleges here, viz., that the rates were found to be low. Now, Sir, my hon. Friend from Madras has asked me why the rates in 1914 were low and later on they were increased and he asked me for the reason why they were increased. The reason is obvious."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"May I know whether the fees in the Law College were increased?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I am informed that there has been an increase even in the case of the Law College."

Mr. T. ADINABAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"Is it in the same proportion?"

\*The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I am not quite sure whether it bears the same proportion, but there has been an increase. Sir, on account of these increases my hon. Friend has asked me if the college has not become unpopular. I must say that it has not become unpopular; because if you take a census of the students who seek admission you will find that they are too many to be admitted."



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Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I never said that the College has become unpopular. I asked what it was that made the Government think that the profession might become unpopular."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"The profession has not become unpopular because more and more of the students are seeking admission into the college. That shows that the profession has not become unpopular."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I never said it has become unpopular."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Sir, another question that was asked is whether the students who are plucked should be allowed the same rate. I quite see that there is some room for complaint. But at the same time, taking into consideration the number of applicants who seek admission into the college it was found necessary that there must be some limitation to the number of years in which the students would be permitted to study under the concession rates and it was found that one year was quite sufficient to get through the year's examination. If a student is not keen about his studies and takes longer time he has to pay for it. Mr. Krishnan Nayar has pointed out that there is some reason why in the case of the students that failed for the first year some consideration should be shown. The students seem to have made a representation to the Surgeon-General and he has sent up proposals before the Government and those proposals are now under consideration and I hope and trust that the decision would be arrived at very soon."

\*Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, I just want to refer to one point which has not been referred to either in the Government Order or by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government. It is with regard to the fees for the compartmental system. There is some provision in the Government Order for the students who fail in the final year. If the student fails in one subject he is being charged Rs. 100. On that point the Government Order is silent. Every one expected that the same old scale would continue even now. So I should think that the sum of Rs. 100 which is demanded even in the earlier classes is against the spirit of the Government Order. Therefore I would suggest to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government that he should reconsider the decision as regards the state of affairs that exists now. I hope in this at least the original fees will be restored. I take it Rs. 60 would be the half-yearly fees according to the old scale. Taking that Rs. 60 into four parts each subject is charged only Rs. 15. As it is, if a man fails in one subject he has to pay Rs. 100 and it is unintelligible for us how Rs. 15 could be increased to Rs. 100. Therefore I suggest that the hon. Minister should restore the old state of affairs about which the Government Order is silent."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"Sir, I must state that I am disappointed at the attitude taken by the hon. Minister. I think that the resolution does not go far enough and it is modest so far as it goes. It did not ask for the abrogation of the Government Order. It only suggests that those who joined the Medical College before the issue of the notification should be charged the same rates till they complete their course. I have still a ray of hope that it will still be possible for the hon. Minister to reconsider and see whether something cannot be done in the way of accepting the resolution."



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\*The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I point out that I said that the whole matter was under consideration? There is no reason why one should anticipate what the decision would be and comment upon it."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" I am very glad to have the assurance. But I was under the impression that the hon. Minister in the course of his remarks restricted the scope and said that in the case of the failed students there were not sufficient grounds for any reconsideration."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" That I did say in justification of the policy pursued by the Government in charging the rate. I only said that the reason why Government raised the rates in the case of the ploughed students was that more students were coming for admission than the College could accommodate. So Government thought they had better put a limitation as to the concession and they allowed a year."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" I am very glad that the hon. Minister is prepared to view the question from the same standpoint in which I view it. But I wish to place one or two considerations which will certainly convince him that the course which is suggested is the most reasonable course to be taken.

4-45 p.m. " It will be remembered that the scope we are now giving to these graduates from the medical colleges is somewhat limited, and it is our duty to encourage the creation of an independent medical profession. It has to be remembered also that owing to various causes we have adopted a scheme whereby it is not possible to pay the medical graduates at the same rate at which we were paying them before. Taking these circumstances into consideration, it is our duty to make it much easier for students to obtain their medical education and thereby develop an independent medical profession. I do not think that those who enter the Medical College now can hope to get appointments carrying fat salaries. It is only by private practice that they can earn anything and that depends upon the way in which they can satisfy the people with whom they come in contact. That is the state of affairs hereafter. It will therefore be quite necessary that the Government should devise a means whereby they can make medical education much cheaper than at present instead of making it more costly, not being in a position to give them the same guaranteed appointments, not being in a position to give them the same salaries that they were earning hitherto. But to take steps whereby you make it more difficult to obtain medical education is, I think, a retrograde step. In view of the changed conditions so far as the medical profession is concerned, in view of the fact that they have to make their way hereafter by their own exertions, it is our duty to see that their position is bettered and not worsened. If we cannot induce a better system of paying them on account of financial or other reasons, if we cannot reduce the fees or cancel the Government Order, the simple request contained in this resolution is the most reasonable course to adopt."

\* Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" Mr. President, some twenty-five years ago the medical profession was not overcrowded, so much so that the students of the Medical College had to be paid by the Government in the shape of stipends. It was also due to the fact that the medical profession did not attract as many graduates as Law did. Because Law was more paying. Now the profession of Law is overcrowded, and the people are turning to medicine. It is simply



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(b) whether it is a fact that it has not been repaired yet and whether the villagers concerned suffer for want of irrigation facilities?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

### Land Revenue.

*Assignment of lands in Valkadai, North Arcot district.*

144 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased, with reference to answer to interpellation No. 1193, dated 14th November 1924, to call for and lay on the table a report as to—

(a) whether any applications for house-sites have been received from the people of Valkadai;

(b) how many applications were received for the assignment of lands from members of depressed classes and from caste people;

(c) how many assignments have so far been made;

(d) of the above how many for the depressed classes and how many for the caste-people;

(e) whether any portion has been specially reserved for the depressed classes;

(f) if not specially reserved for the depressed classes, whether the land is available for being assigned to ryots of the other castes under Darkhast rules;

(g) whether Government are considering the feasibility of organizing co-operative societies for the common cultivation of the disafforested areas; and

(h) whether any such proposals have been received?

A.—There are no facts before the Government which render any enquiry necessary.

*Agricultural holdings of 4 acres and less in the Presidency.*

145 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of agricultural holdings of 4 acres and less in the Presidency;

(b) the proportion such holdings bear to the total number of holdings; and

(c) the proportion borne by the revenue paid by such holdings to the total land revenue of the Presidency?

A.—The revenue accounts contain particulars of pattas, not of holdings. It is possible that one patta covers more than one holding or only part of one holding. Pattas are not classified according to the extent of land they refer to but according to the amount of revenue payable on each. The information the hon. Member requires is therefore not available.

### Village Establishments.

*District Village Officers' conference held at Mayavaram and Chidambaram.*

146 Q.—Rao Bahadur K. KRISHNASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolutions passed at the District Village Officers'



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and I understood him to say that he is moving in the same direction indicated by this resolution, and after hearing his speech, I consulted Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, the seconder of this resolution, and also my hon. Friend from Nellore, Mr. Krishna Rao Pantulu, who spoke in support of this resolution, and they agree with me that the better course is to withdraw the resolution. I will therefore withdraw the resolution, if the House will kindly permit it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member wants leave of the House to withdraw his resolution."

Voices of 'Vote, vote' and 'No, no'.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has not the leave of the House to withdraw the resolution. It will go forward."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"In supporting the motion, I want to say a few words. In the name of the so-called civilization we have contracted so many habits and ways of living, woe unto us, with the result that we are liable to so many diseases unheard of before and quite unknown in this country. So, Sir, the demand for the medical profession is very great. Even in country parts the people are now in very great need of medical men. Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar said that we have got only one medical man for every twenty thousand people. We should at least have one in one thousand. Under the circumstances, to raise the fees from Rs. 540 to Rs. 900 will work a great hardship. If you do not reduce these prohibitive fees, the profession is sure to go down. What about the students who are poor, but who are intelligent and capable of entering the profession? In those cases, the door is once for all barred to them. Such a heavy fee may be adopted in the case of a crowded profession like Law. The Law College fees may be raised to the extent proposed or to any extent possible. A popular profession, or a profession which is in great need for the country, should be encouraged as far as possible. In the circumstances, I not only support the motion but think that the fees should not be raised but must be maintained at the lowest level possible."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"As my name has been mentioned by the hon. the Mover in withdrawing his resolution, may I have a word of explanation in the matter?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think I have ruled before, and I believe I have very good authority for saying so, that one objector is enough to prevent the withdrawal of a resolution once moved. Consequently it has to be proceeded with, and I have to put it to the vote."

The motion was put and declared lost. A poll was taken with the following result :—

*Ayes.*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju.   | 11. Mr. K. Koti Reddi.                 |
| 2. Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi.                | 12. " C. Marudavanam Pillai.           |
| 3. Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu. | 13. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.           |
| 4. " C. Natesa Mudaliyar.                 | 14. Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao.             |
| 5. " T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar.           | 15. Mr. G. Rameswara Rao.              |
| 6. Mr. P. C. Venkatapatiraju.             | 16. Sreeman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo. |
| 7. " A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.             | 17. Mr. M. Sectayya.                   |
| 8. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.            | 18. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.           |
| 9. " P. Anjaneyulu.                       | 19. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.   |
| 10. " A. Chidambara Nadar.                | 20. Mr. R. Veerian.                    |



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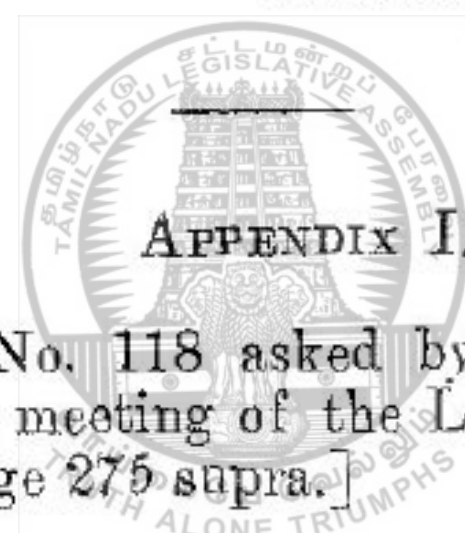
## Noes.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp.               | 16. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan.                  |
| 2. " Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.             | 17. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.    |
| 3. " the Raja of Panagal                    | 18. Mr. J. Kuppuswami.                        |
| 4. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.           | 19. " A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.                 |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai. | 20. " B. Muniswami Nayudu.                    |
| 6. " Mr. R. A. Graham.                      | 21. " P. N. Marthandam Pillai.                |
| 7. " " N. E. Marjoribanks.                  | 22. " K. S. Ponnuswami Pillai.                |
| 8. Mr. R. W. Davies.                        | 23. " P. T. Rajan.                            |
| 9. " G. F. Paddison.                        | 24. " B. Ramachandra Reddi.                   |
| 10. " P. L. Moore.                          | 25. " J. Samuel.                              |
| 11. " Abdulla Ghatala Sahib.                | 26. " K. Sitarama Reddi.                      |
| 12. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar.                | 27. " R. Srinivasan.                          |
| 13. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai.       | 28. Diwan Bahadur W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar. |
| 14. Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nader           | 29. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhaachari.        |
| 15. " A. V. Bhanoji Rao.                    | 30. Mr. Haji Abdulla Sahib.                   |
|   | 31. " Quadir Muhi-ud-din Sahib.               |

The motion was declared lost, 20 voting for and 31 against.

The Council then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,  
Secretary to the Legislative Council.



## APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 118 asked by Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar alias Pantulu Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th February 1925, page 275 supra.]

(1)

G.O. Mis. No. 1725, Revenue, dated 6th November 1924.

The Board of Revenue is informed that all lands in the districts of Tanjore, South Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar which have been covered with sand or otherwise rendered unfit for cultivation by the recent floods will be granted remission under the ordinary remission rules until they are reclaimed.

\* \* \* \* \*

(2)

G.O. Mis. No. 1931, Revenue, dated 16th December 1924.

In continuation of G.O. No. 1725, Revenue, dated 6th November 1924, the Government sanction the grant of remission of assessment on portions of survey fields or recognized subdivisions which have been covered with sand or otherwise rendered unfit for cultivation during the current fasli in all the districts affected by the floods except South Kanara, provided that the area so affected is not less than one acre in extent—where, however, a recognized subdivision measures less than an acre, remission may be granted on the entire subdivision irrespective of the extent.

\* \* \* \* \*



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## APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 149 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th February 1925, page 293 supra.]

*Paragraphs 35 and 73 of Part VI of the Annual Report on the working of the Local Audit Department, Madras, for 1923-24.*

### Defalcations.

*Paragraph 35.*—Eleven cases of embezzlements and temporary misappropriations of municipal money ranging from Rs. 10-2-0 to Rs. 1,802-14-0 were reported to this office after the submission of the last consolidated audit report. As several other cases were noticed during audit, it is evident that the rule in article 64 of the Municipal Account Code that all such cases should be reported to this office is not strictly followed.

It was observed in all cases that the defalcations and misappropriations were not due to any defect in the rules, but that the frauds were rendered possible by lack of supervision and neglect of the rules laid down in the Municipal Account Code. In almost all the cases reported, the delinquents were bill collectors. If only the rules relating to the issue of bill books and to the scrutiny of collections were followed, the frauds could have been detected earlier if they could not altogether have been prevented. A closer and a more intelligent supervision over the work of the subordinate municipal staff, strictly in compliance with the rules, is very much needed so as to minimize frauds.

The Manager of the Saidapet Municipal office, who was mainly responsible for the temporary misappropriations of about Rs. 2,000 referred to in paragraph 39 (a) of the Audit Report of 1922-23 and who absconded, was recently traced and prosecuted. He was convicted to six months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 200.

A tax clerk of the Rajahmundry Municipal office defalcated cesspool and license fees to the extent of Rs. 1,978-5-4 of which he has paid back Rupees 1,778-5-4; the difference of Rs. 200 is proposed to be adjusted from the Provident Fund account of the clerk. It would appear that the clerk had been making collections of municipal revenues without the knowledge of his superior officers. He was prosecuted and the result of the prosecution is awaited.

A sum of Rs. 1,802-14-0 was found missing from the cash chest of the Nellore Municipal office on 7th July 1924. After departmental inquiry, the Chairman suspended the head accountant and the acting shroff and also dispensed with the services of two watchmen. The police could not detect the culprits, and information as to the final administrative action taken by the Chairman is awaited.

Two other cases of temporary misappropriation were also reported from the same municipality. The amounts involved, viz., Rs. 30-9-11 and Rs. 57-11-9, being revenues collected but not credited into the Municipal office, were subsequently recovered. The defaulter was fined in one case and dismissed in the other.



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In the Vizianagram municipality, embezzlement to the extent of Rupees 435-8-0 by the shroff, the tax clerks and the manager were noticed; of this, a sum of Rs. 402 has been recovered and the balance is pending adjustment. In this case, spurious bills from old bill books in the names of persons other than those in the demand registers and bills for amounts larger than those due according to the books of the Municipal office were issued without any scrutiny by any responsible officer and the Chairman as required by article 134 of the Municipal Account Code. All the subordinates concerned are stated to have been dismissed from service.

In the Bezwada municipality, two bill collectors absconded with the tax collected by them, one with Rs. 240-6-1 and another with Rs. 83-8-0. The amounts were, however, made good by their relations.

Two ward peons employed in the Cocanada Municipality misappropriated private scavenging fees amounting to Rs. 49-12-6 and Rs. 67-2-0. The amounts were recovered and the peon was dismissed in one case and reduced in the other.

*Paragraph 73.*—Since the submission of the last consolidated audit report, seven cases of embezzlements and temporary misappropriations of local boards' money ranging from Rs. 8-4-0 to Rs. 130-1-0 were reported. As several other cases were noticed during audit, it is evident that the rules in the Local Boards Manual and the Union Manual to the effect that all such cases should be reported to this office are not strictly followed.

It is regrettable to note that since the introduction of the Local Boards Act, 1920, the delinquents in some cases were none other than the presidents of local boards.

Reports regarding the final action taken with regard to the following embezzlements and misappropriations noticed in previous years have not yet been received in this office:—

Local Boards.	Amount.			Remarks.
	RS.	A.	P.	
Bhattiprolu Union Board (Guntur district).	31	0	0	Union Board collections misappropriated by clerk in December 1922.
Addanki Union Board ...	47	0	0	Union Board collections not remitted into treasury in 1922.
Cuddalore Taluk Board ..	23	0	0	Pay of Fakirpalayam school establishment for November 1922 misappropriated by the acting headmaster.
Ramnad Taluk Board ...	37	4	0	Profession tax collected and misappropriated by the acting headman of Chittarotai in 1923.
Coimbatore District Board.	108	14	0	Amount drawn by a contractor on a forged cheque in 1923.
Tittagudi Union Board ...	5	8	0	Balance of amount misappropriated by union clerk in 1923.



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In the matter of the defalcation of Rs. 3,679 by the clerk of the Abiramam Union Board referred to in paragraph 63 (a) of the last consolidated audit report, no recovery of the amount has yet been made; a prosecution launched against the clerk and the maistri is pending as they have absconded. At the instance of the Government, a civil suit has been filed against the President of the Union Board for the recovery of the sum.

A sum of Rs. 4,901-6-3 was defalcated by the President of the Rameswaram Union Board. This sum included pilgrim tax to the extent of Rs. 2,802-1-0 and a sum of Rs. 1,000 drawn from the treasury as an advance for the purchase of articles required by the Conservancy Department. The President who was prosecuted has been convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 100 and to suffer imprisonment till the rising of the Court. The whole of the amount embezzled was made good.

In Gajapathinagaram Union Board in the Godavari district, the ex-President and an ex-clerk of the Union Board were reported to have collected and drawn from the treasury sums to the extent of Rs. 2,295 for works which were not executed, though they were alleged to have been. The case is now under police investigation.

The President of the Tekkali Union Board (Ganjam district) is under trial on a charge of misappropriation of Union Board funds amounting to Rs. 2,100 drawn by him for the purpose of repairing a union tank and sinking temporary wells. The result of the trial is awaited.

The President of the Chilakalurpeta Union Board (Guntur district) was prosecuted for the temporary misappropriation of two sums, viz., Rs. 1,440 drawn from the treasury between 9th February 1923 and 11th July 1923 and Rs. 453, being realizations of revenue not remitted into the sub-treasury even after the misappropriation was pointed out in audit. The prosecution resulted in the conviction of the President on both the charges in the lower Court, but, on appeal, the conviction was set aside on the first charge, but confirmed on the second, the ex-President being sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 300.

In the Attur Union (Salem district), a sum of Rs. 1,304-2-0 was misappropriated. Of this, a sum of Rs. 1,101-12-4 has been recovered. The audit of the accounts disclosed that they had been falsified by the union clerk. Government, in their order G.O. Mis. No. 2030, L. & M., dated 24th July 1924, have instructed the President, District Board, Salem, to institute criminal proceedings against the culprits. The result is awaited.

At a special audit of the accounts of the Narasaraopet Taluk Board (Guntur district), it was noticed that sale-proceeds realized by the President and Vice-President and amounts drawn by them from the treasury on different occasions for different purposes were not properly accounted by them. When the Collector of the district was deputed by Government to inquire into these irregularities, a sum of Rs. 507-13-0 was refunded by the President and a sum of Rs. 662-6-1 by the Vice-President. The further result of the inquiry is awaited.

In the Ganjam district, a sum of Rs. 206-13-2, being an amount at credit of a vaccinator in the Provident Fund, was drawn from the Post Office Savings Bank in January 1922, but was not disbursed to the subscriber. A



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second claim was preferred in July 1922 for the same amount and it was drawn from the Aska sub-treasury. The amount drawn on the first occasion was not accounted for.

As a result of a disregard of rules, serious irregularities were noticed in the Vizianagram Taluk Board in accounting for profession tax and other collections. A taluk board member was entrusted with the supervision and collection of amount due to the Taluk Board and the Vice-President received amounts collected by bill collectors with the result that a total sum of Rs. 840 remained unaccounted for, the persons responsible for the non-remittance being the Vice-President, a member of the Taluk Board, the head clerk, the tax clerk and a temporary clerk.

The temporary President of the Kaniyammuttur (Major) Union Board retained the revenues of the Union Board amounting to Rs. 732-4-0 realized from 13th January to 27th March 1924, paid Rs. 124 therefrom on 9th February 1924 instead of issuing a cheque towards the pay of the Union Board staff for January 1924, remitted Rs. 389 into the treasury on 31st March 1924, Rs. 31-4-0 on 28th April 1924 and Rs. 188 on 2nd August 1924, without any explanation for the delay in remitting the collections, although executive instruction (196) part I of the Union Board Manual, specifically lays down that all collections in unions in which there are no Government treasuries should be remitted on the 21st of each month unless they amount to Rs. 50 when they should be remitted forthwith. It has to be observed that the withholding of collections for long periods instead of crediting them to the treasury as required by the rules is tantamount to temporary misappropriation unless the contrary is proved.

A sum of Rs. 653-4-0 appertaining to the Kovur Union Board (Kistna district) was misappropriated by the union clerk; the police inquiry into the matter is stated to be pending.

Owing to lack of supervision, a sum of Rs. 257-13-4 was defalcated by the clerk of the Narasapatam Union Board (Vizagapatam district) who died in June 1924. The amount has not yet been made good.

The cash balance of the Valangiman Union Board (Tanjore district) amounting to Rs. 141-6-2 was not available for verification during audit, although it was repeatedly called for. If it was in the cash chest, there was no justification for its non-production.

A sum of Rs. 342 collected by the potail of Kadavoor on behalf of the Udipi Taluk Board (South Kanara district) between November 1922 and May 1923, on account of profession tax, was remitted on the 4th June 1923, in consequence of which he was fined Rs. 2 by the Revenue Divisional Officer. Irregularities of this kind are due to lack of efficient supervision.



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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 151 asked by Mr. P. Siva Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th February 1925, page 294 supra.]

(1)

*Proceedings of the District Committee constituted with reference to G.O. No. 2043, L. & M., dated 17th September 1923, to examine the financial position of district and taluk boards.*

*Dated 1st December 1923.*

P R E S E N T .

- (1) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar Avargal, B.A., B.L. (Chairman).
- (2) A. C. Duff, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Bellary.
- (3) M.R.Ry. U. Manjappa Avargal, Treasury Deputy Collector.
- (4) „ K. Brahma Sastrulu Garu, President, Taluk Board, Bellary.
- (5) „ B. Thammi Reddi Garu, President, Taluk Board, Adoni.
- (6) „ A. Obalacharu Garu, President, Taluk Board Rayadrug.
- (7) „ K. Santhappa Garu, President, Taluk Board, Harpanahalli.

*Resolution No. 1.*—As the Committee finds that fresh taxation is the only way to increase the resources of the various boards and make them self-supporting, it recommends to levy an additional taxation of six or four pies according to the figures to be scrutinized later on.

*Resolution No. 2.*—The Committee recommends the abolition of the Rayadrug Taluk Board, the Bellary Taluk Board taking over the Rayadrug and Hospet taking over Kudligi. Mr. Obalacharu dissenting.

(2)

*Proceedings of the District Committee under G.O. No. 2043, L. & M., dated 17th September 1923.*

*30th March 1924.*

P R E S E N T :

- M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar Avargal, B.A., B.L., President, District Board, Bellary.
- „ U. Manjappa Garu, Treasury Deputy Collector.
- „ Diwan Bahadur T. Kothandarama Nayudu Garu, President, Taluk Board, Hospet.
- „ K. Brahma Sastrulu Garu, President, Taluk Board, Bellary.
- „ A. Obalacharu Garu, President, Taluk Board, Rayadrug.
- „ B. Thammi Reddi Garu, President, Taluk Board, Adoni.
- „ K. Santhappa Garu, President, Taluk Board, Harpanahalli.



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*Read*—Normal budgets of the District Board and of each of the taluk boards in the district.

*Resolution*.—The budgets are adopted. The budgets to be communicated to the various bodies concerned.

The Committee is strongly of opinion that the taluk boards be reconstituted to be coterminous with the existing Revenue divisions as that will remove several anomalies now prevailing and as it will also conduce to economy.

M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR,  
*President.*

